September October

九月十月

島田虎之介
Shimada Toranasuke

九月十月

島田虎之介

Aah, let's go to that island tomorrow.

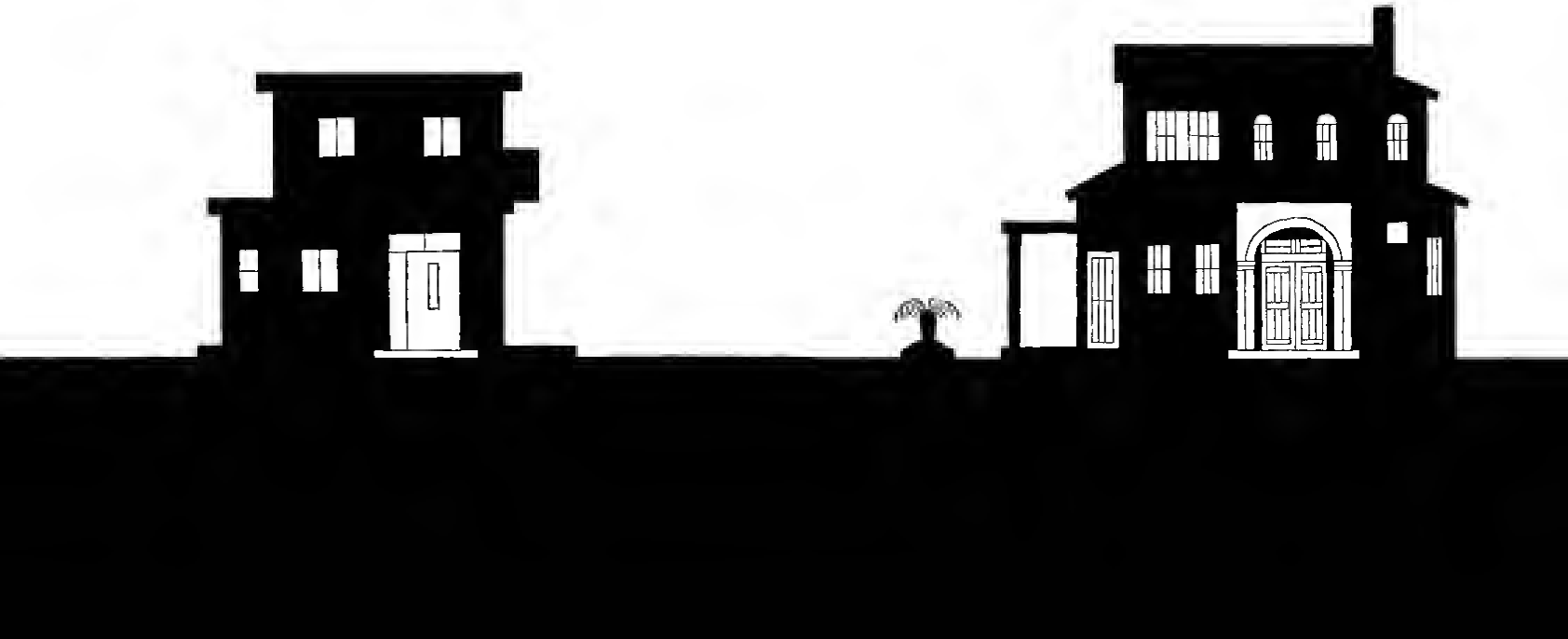
We'll make a hut over there.

We'll live alone among the walls of mud,

a good thatched roof,

nine ridges on a legume field,

the bees buzzing in their honeycombs.



Prologue 002

1 005

2 015

3 027

4 037

5 049

6 059

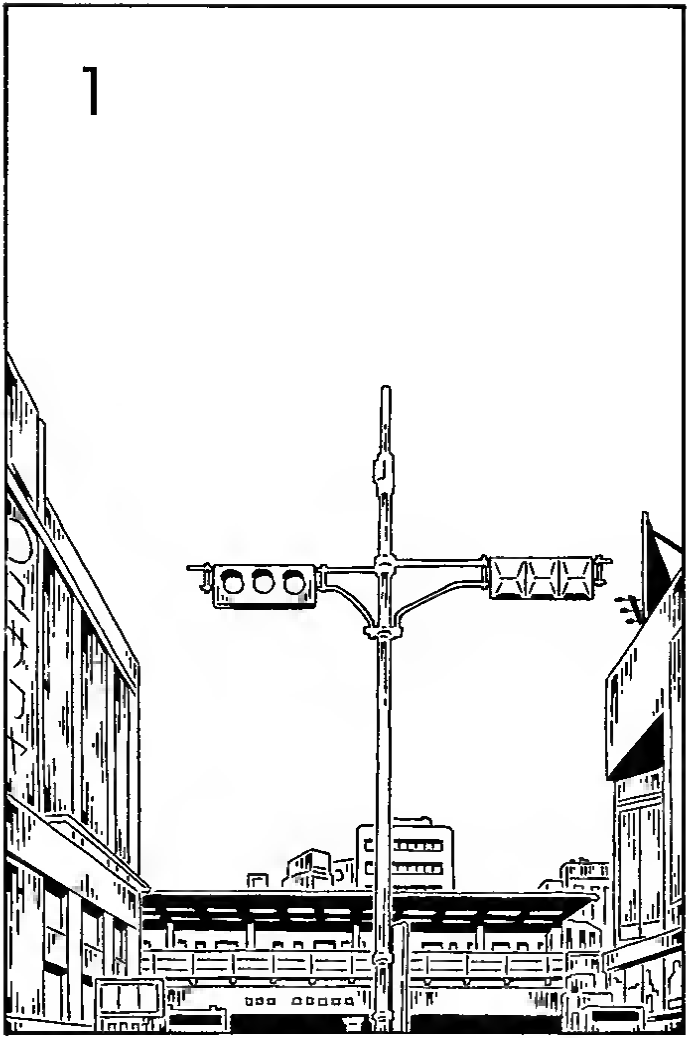
7 071

8 081

9 091

10 099

Epilogue 126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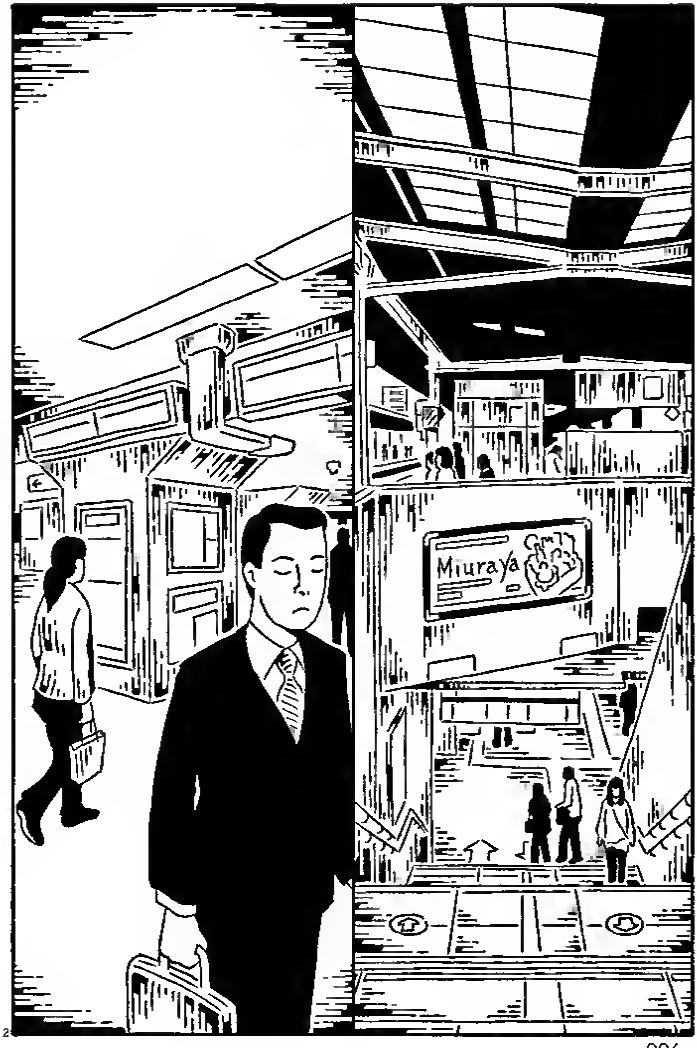
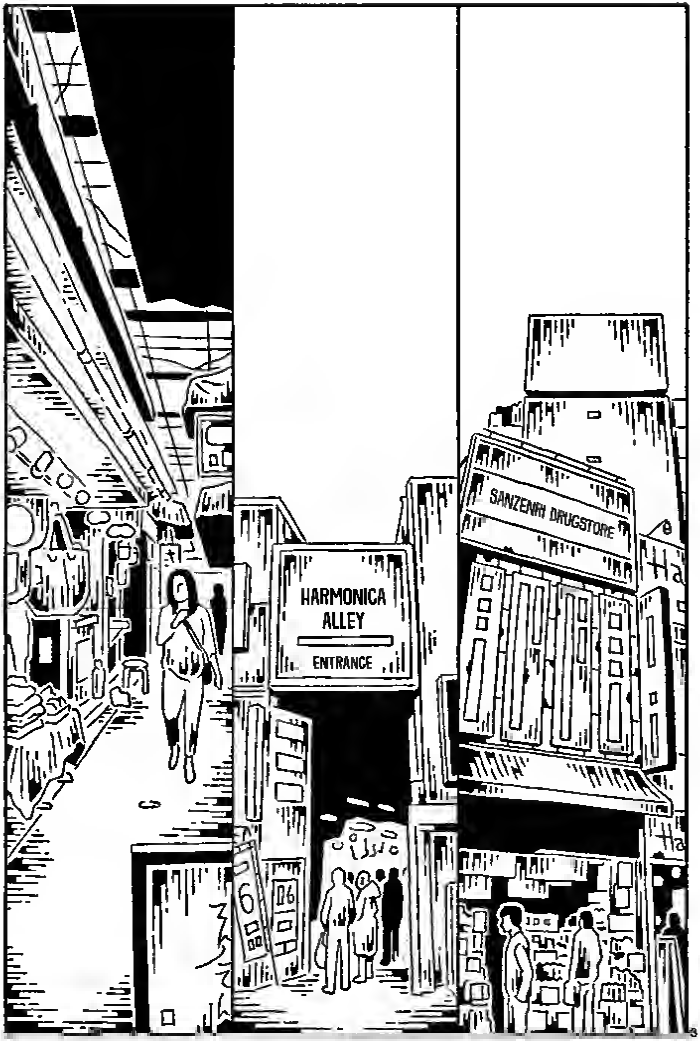

Miuraya

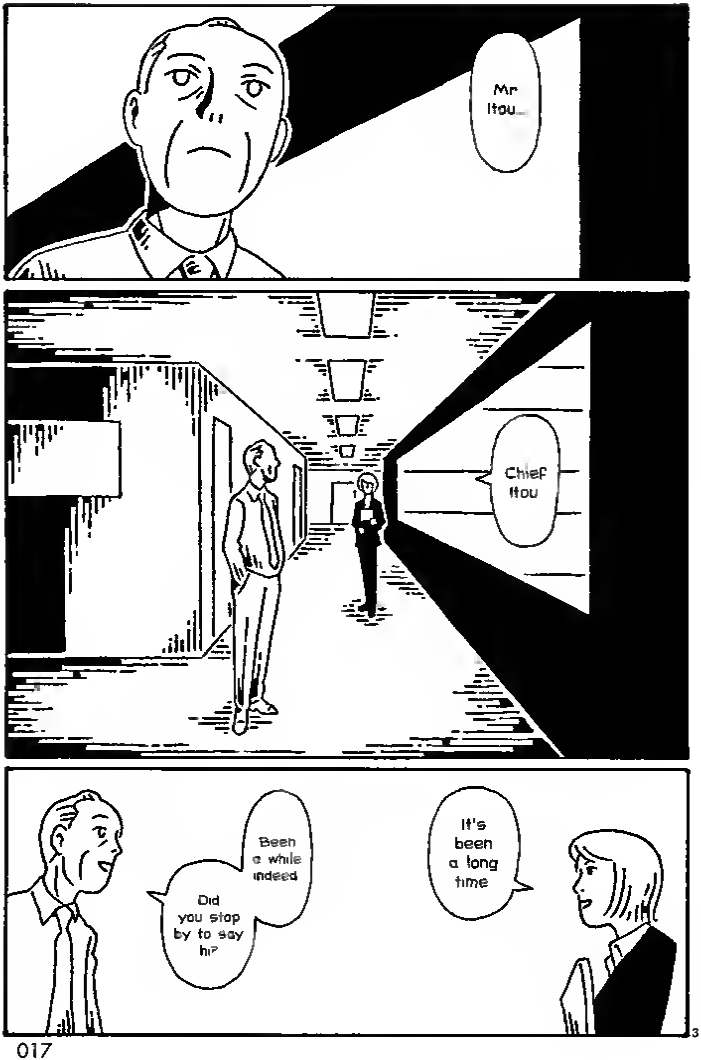

HARMONICA
ALLEY
ENTRANCE
SANZENRI DRUGSTORE

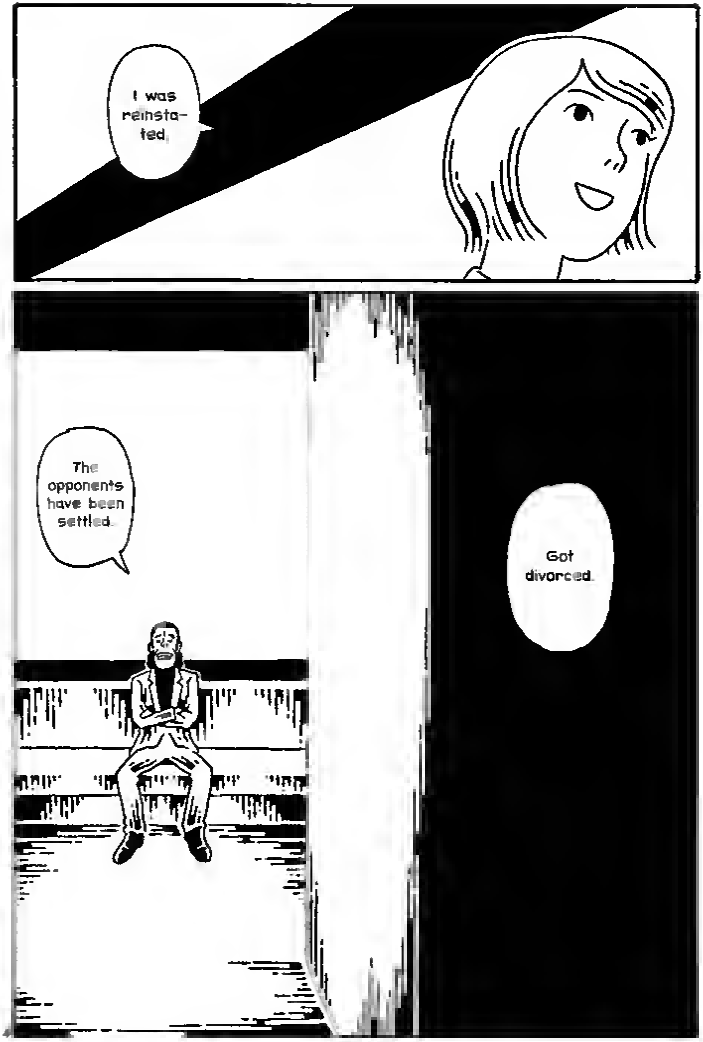
OKYU
TOKYU
TOKYU
つけ麺

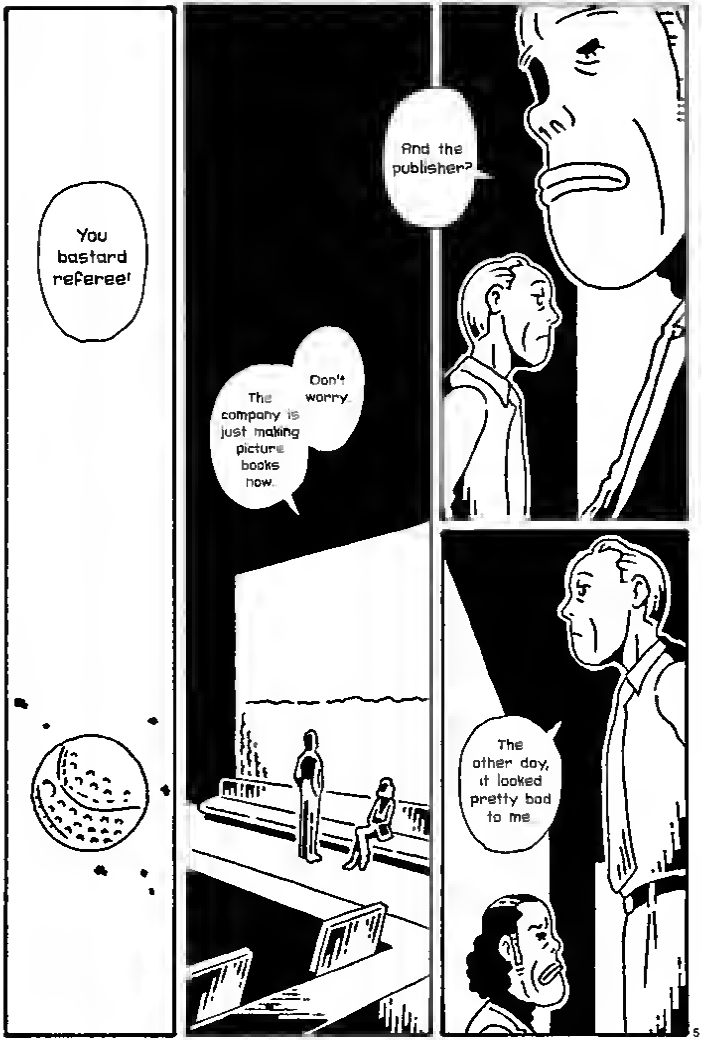
009

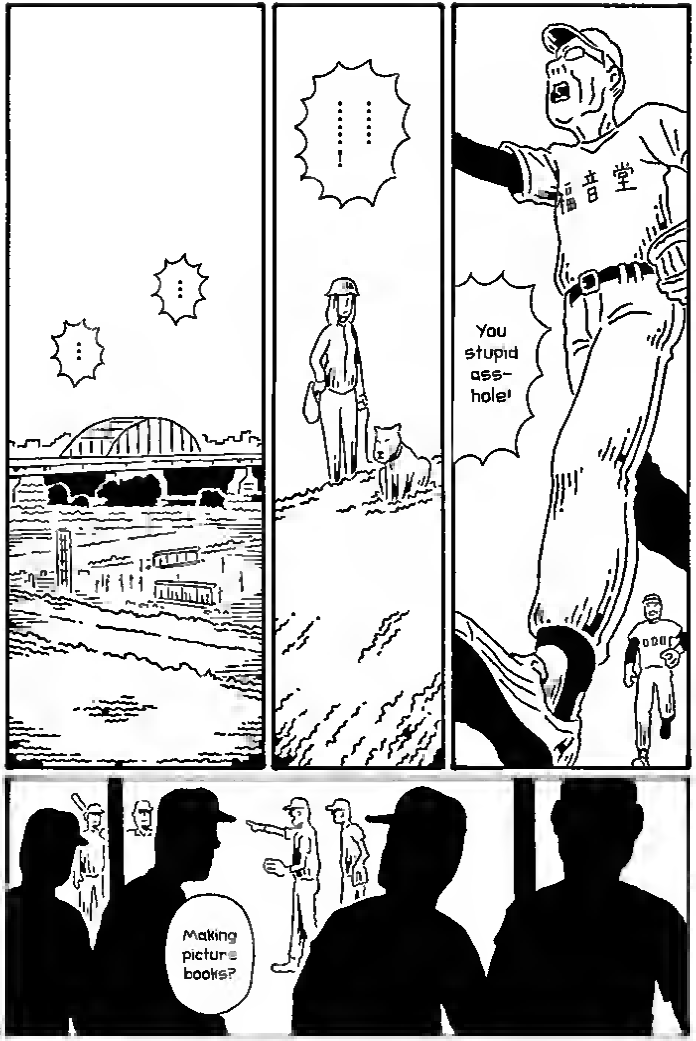
PAINTING

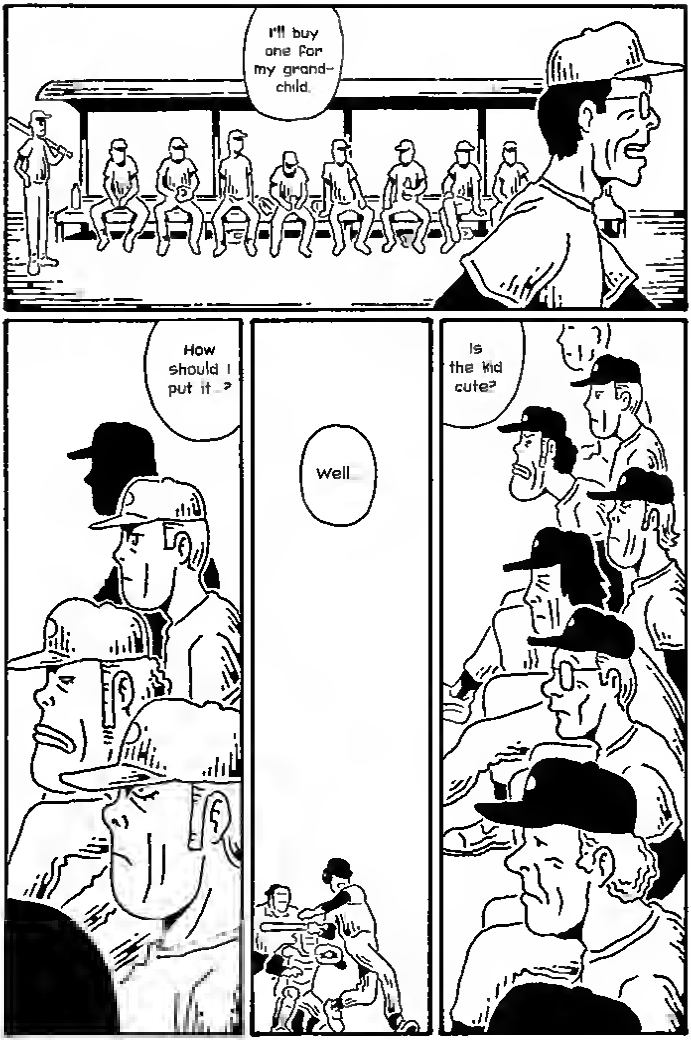
2

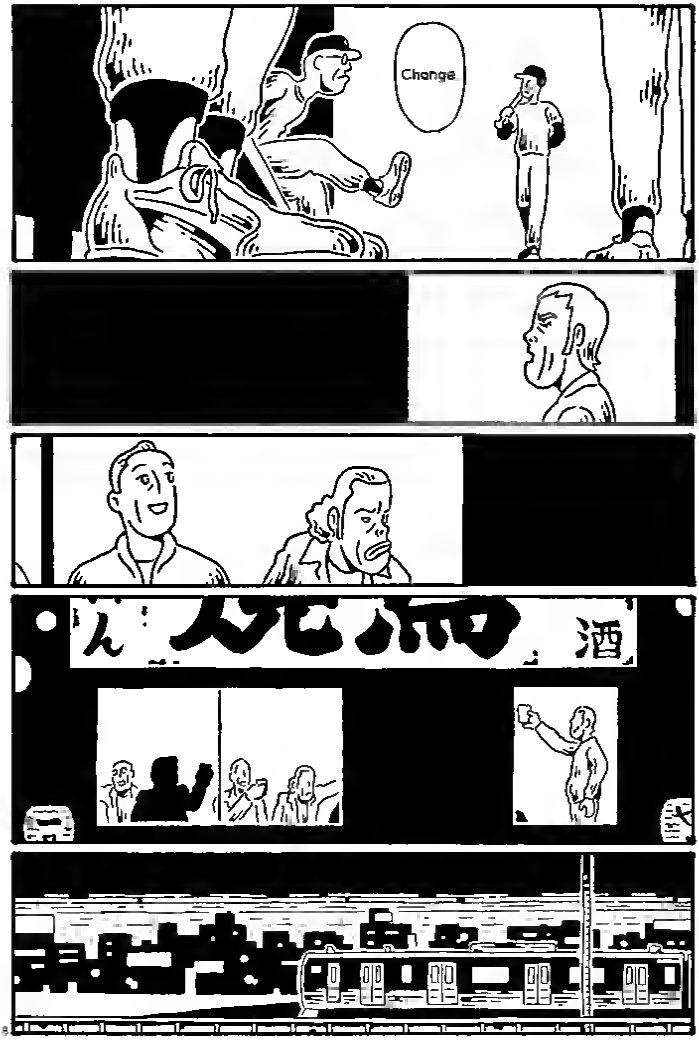

Mr Itou...
Chief Itou
It's been a long time
Been a while indeed
Did you stop by to say hi?


I was reinsta-ted.
The opponents have been settled.
Got divorced.

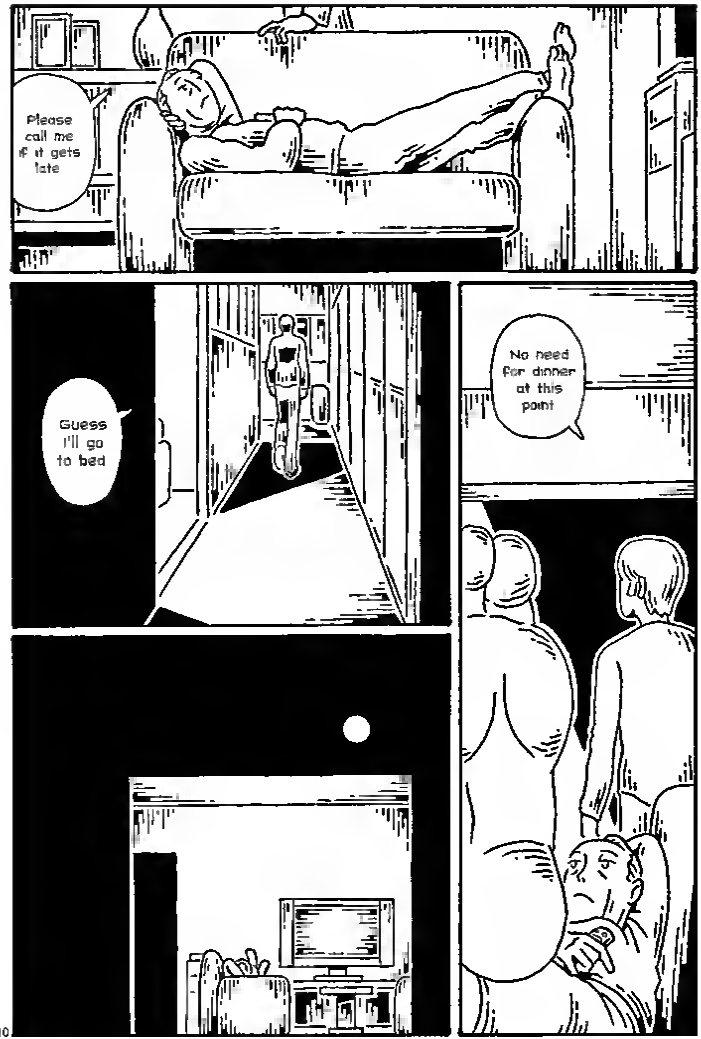

You bastard referee!
Don't worry. The company is just making picture books now.
And the publisher?
The other day, it looked pretty bad to me.


……!
福音堂
You stupid ass-hole!
Making picture books?


I'll buy one for my grand-child.
Is the kid cute?
Well...
How should I put it...?

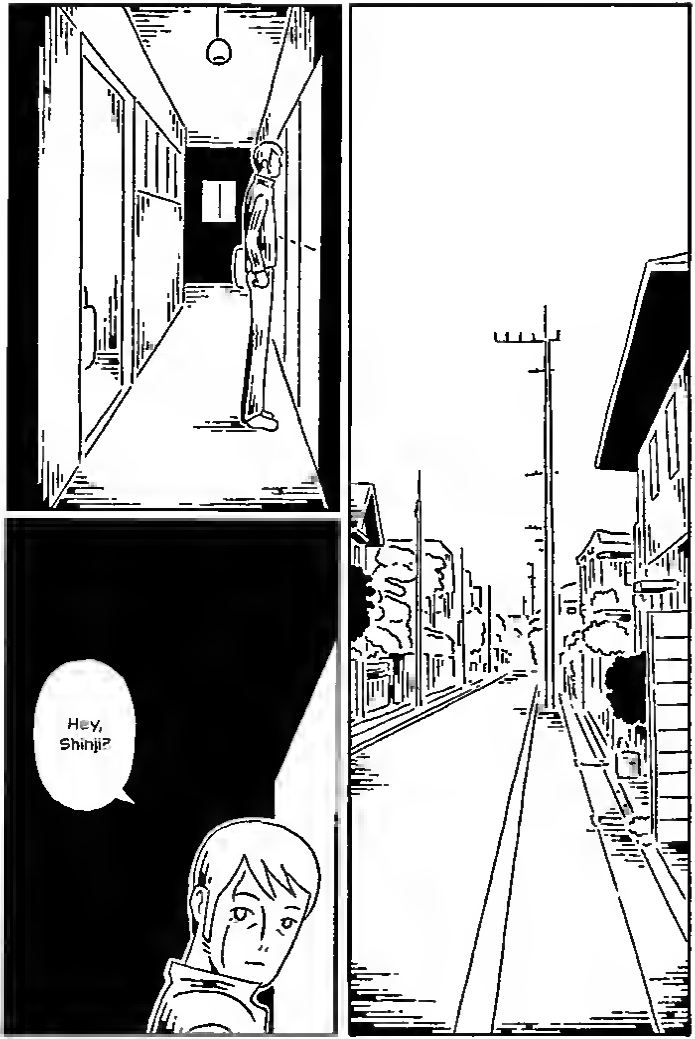

Change
酒

Papa

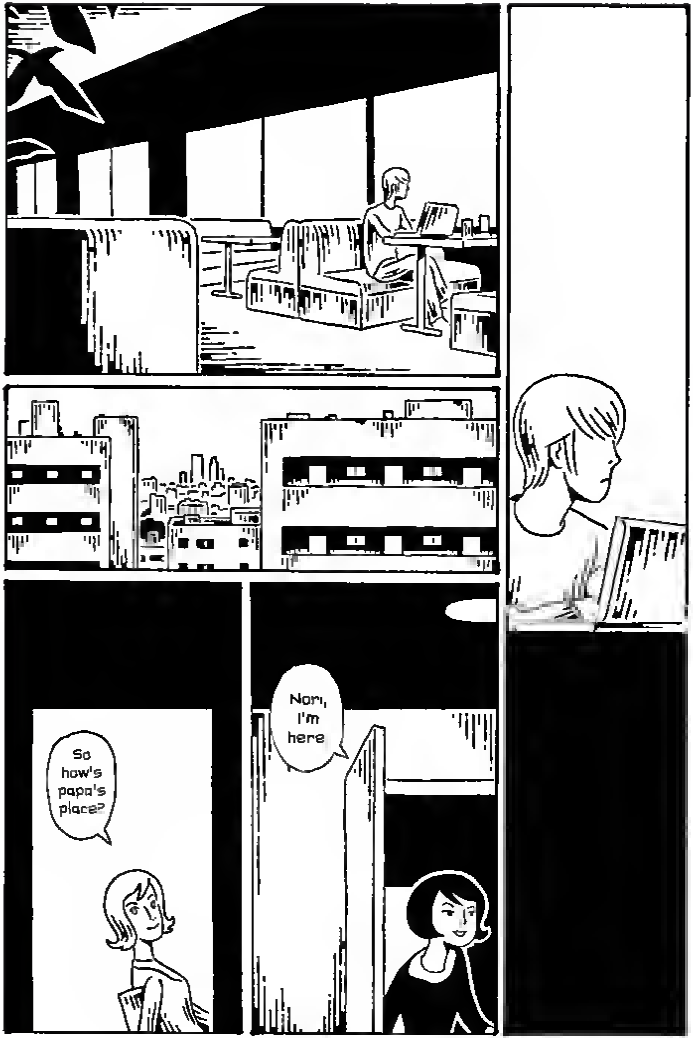

Please call me if it gets late
Guess I'll go to bed
No need for dinner at this point

3

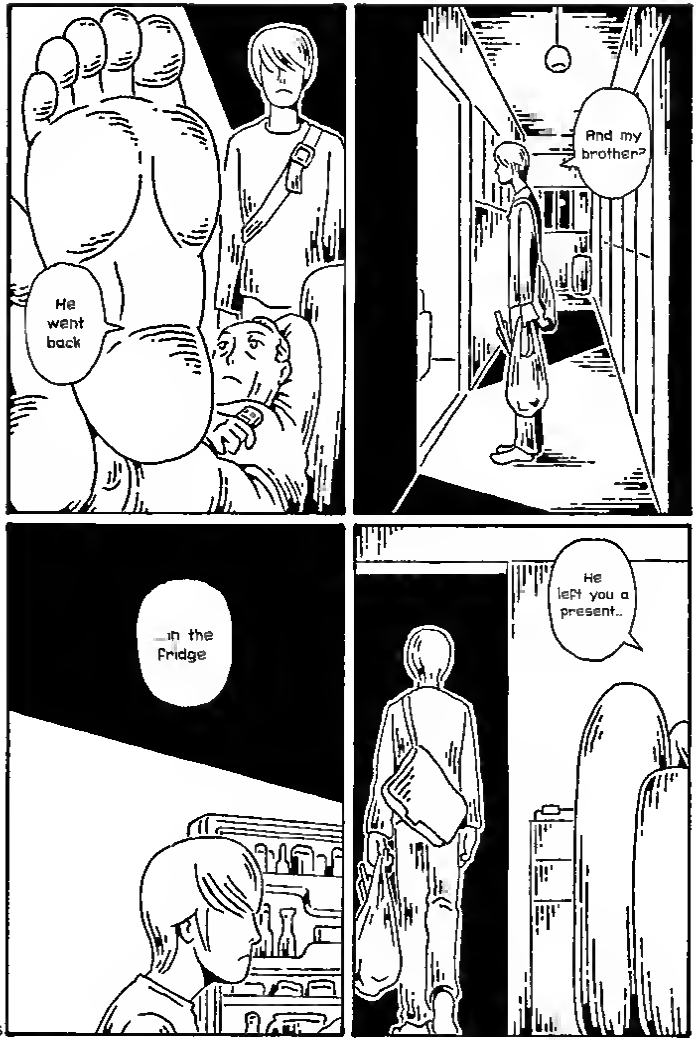
Two 4-packs, please.

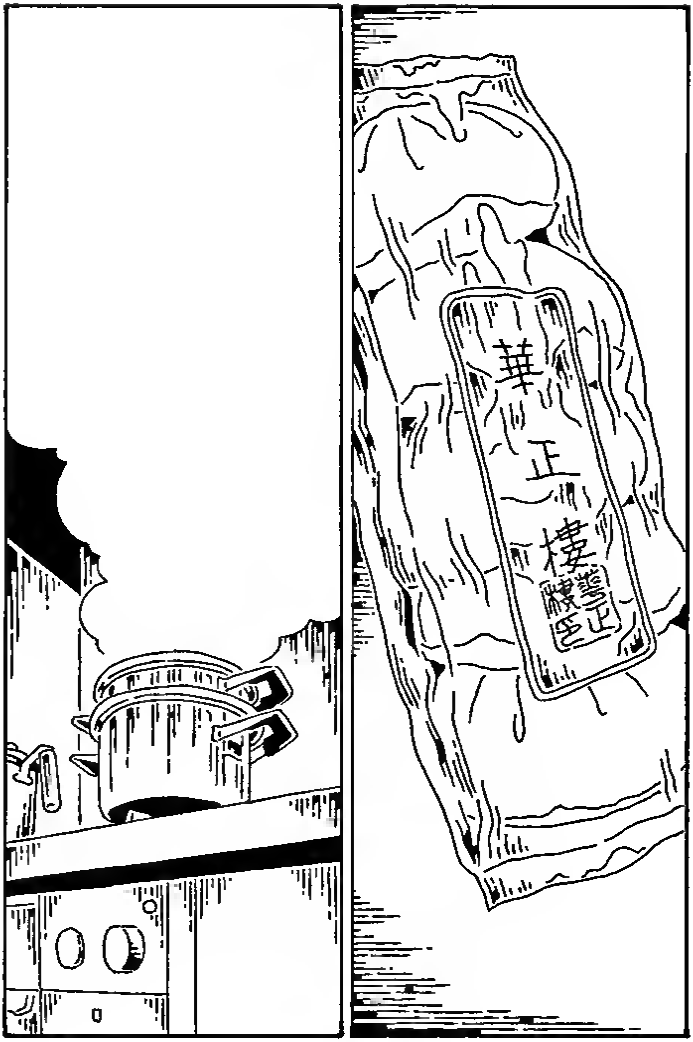

Hey, Shinji?

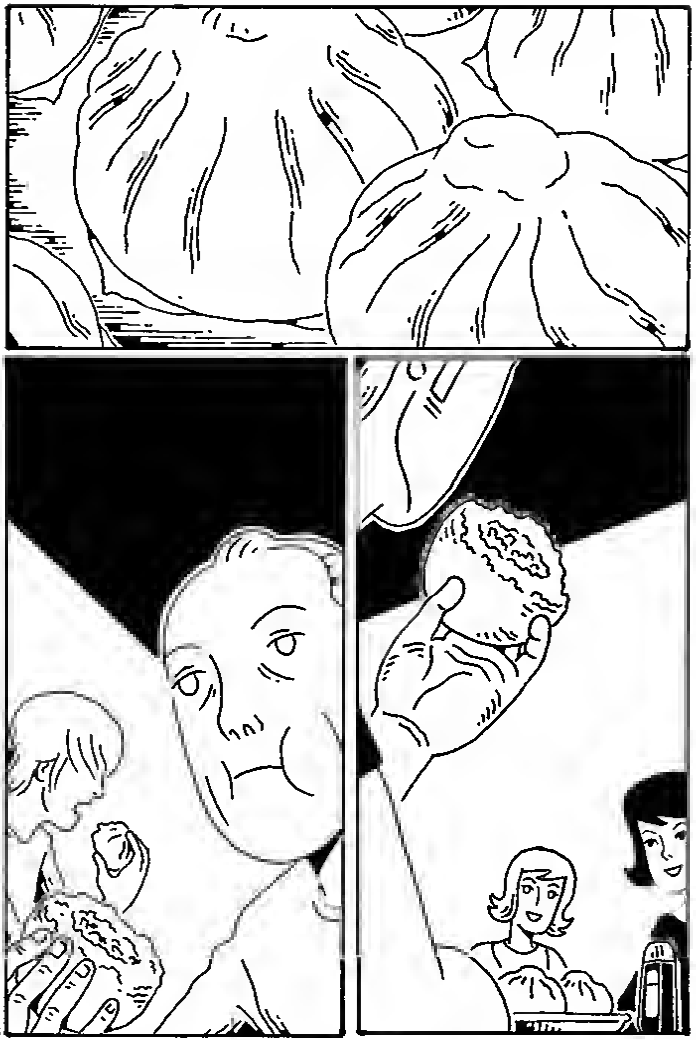
I was out
...I have a favor to ask you.
Now that you are back..
3


Nori, I'm here
So how's papa's place?

It was okay.
Talk?
Did you talk?


He went back
And my brother?
...in the fridge
He left you a present..


華正樓
警正
警正



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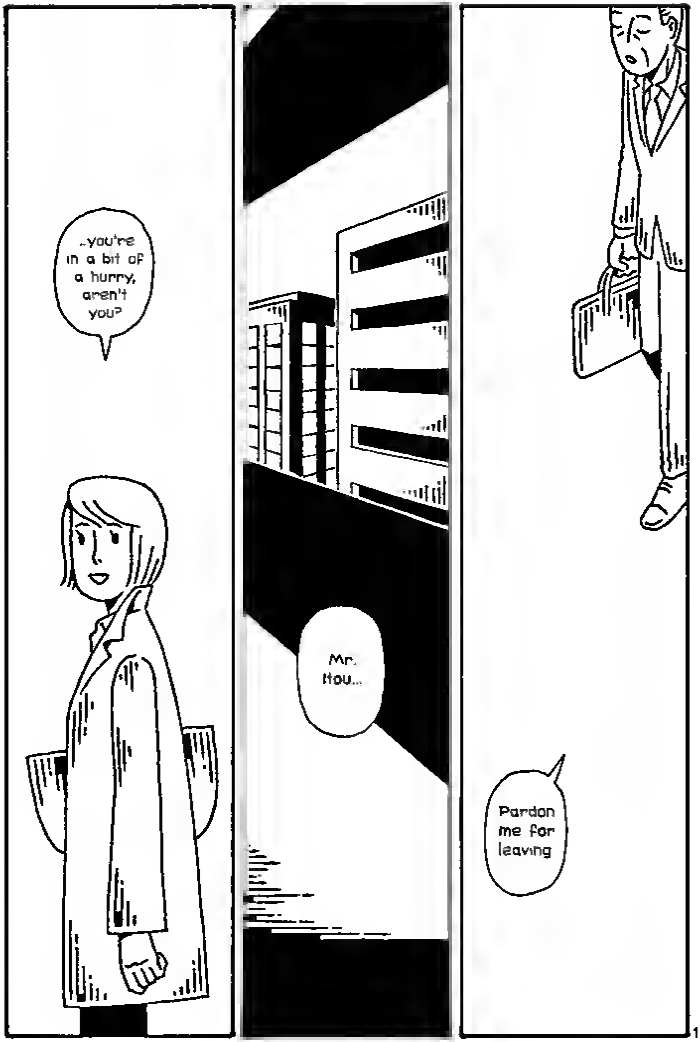
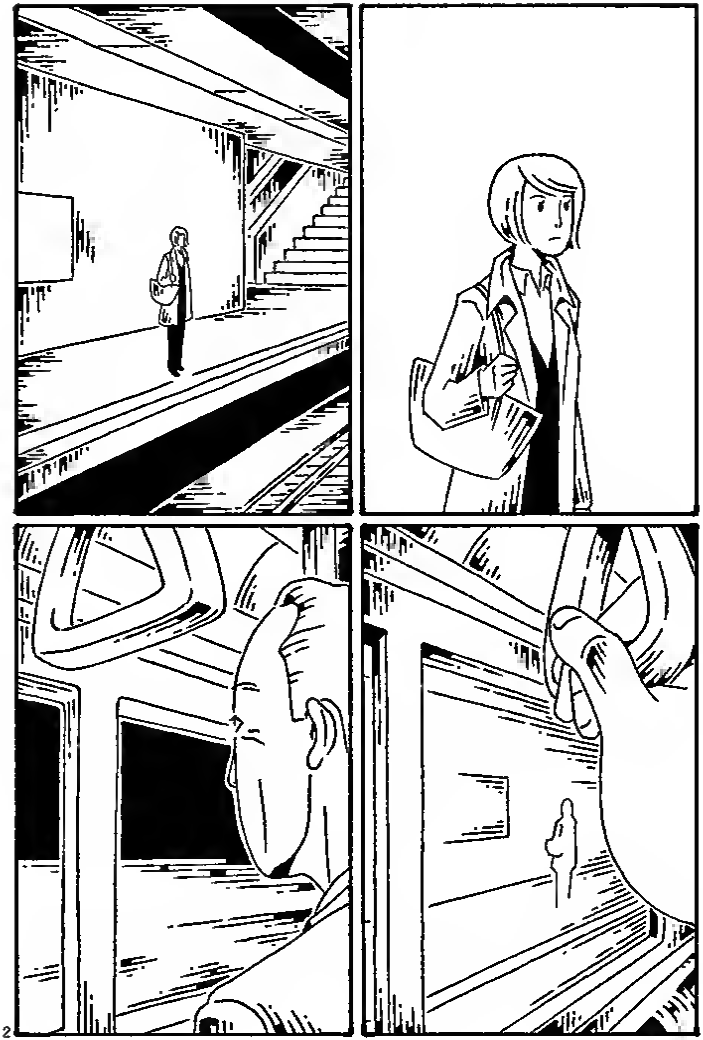

..you're in a bit of a hurry, aren't you?
Mr. Itou...
Pardon me for leaving



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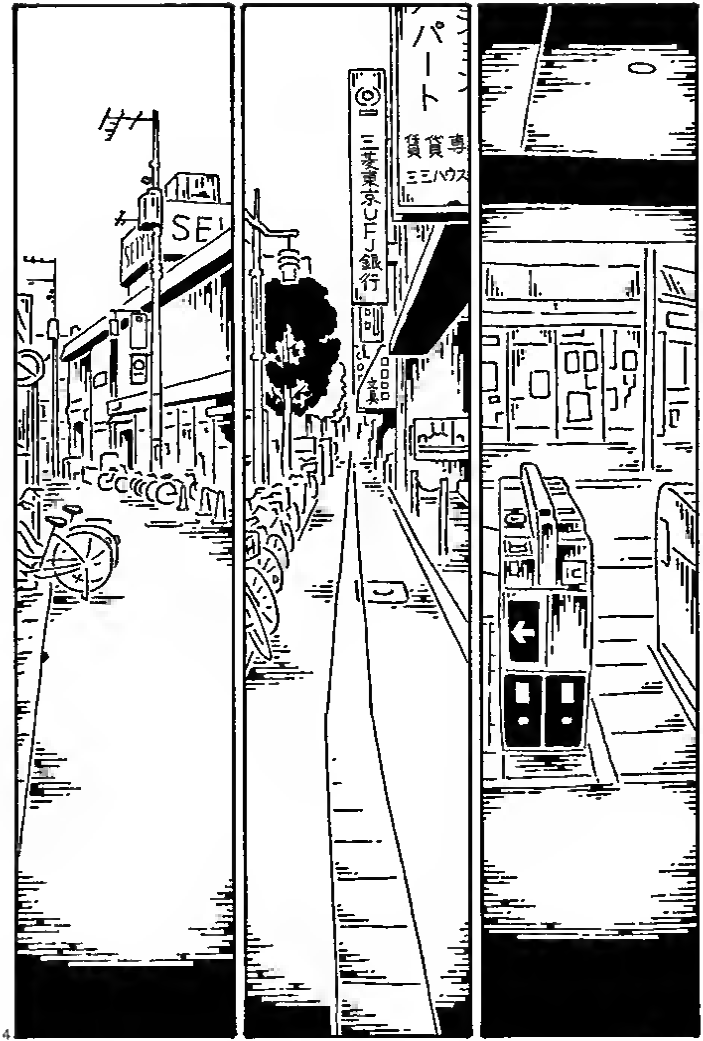
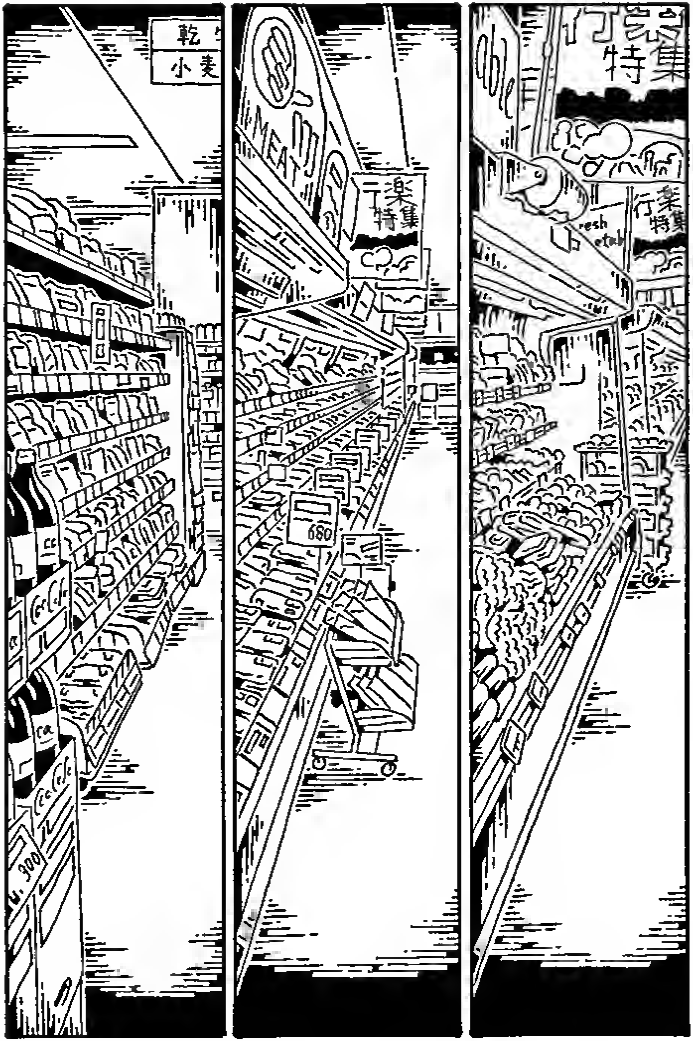
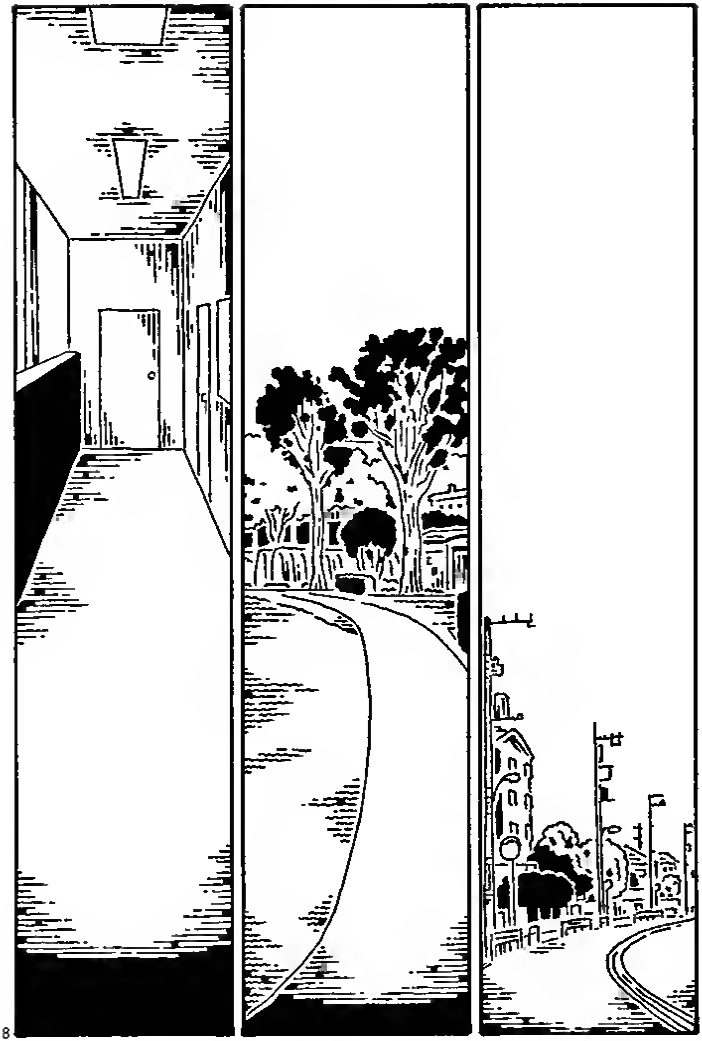
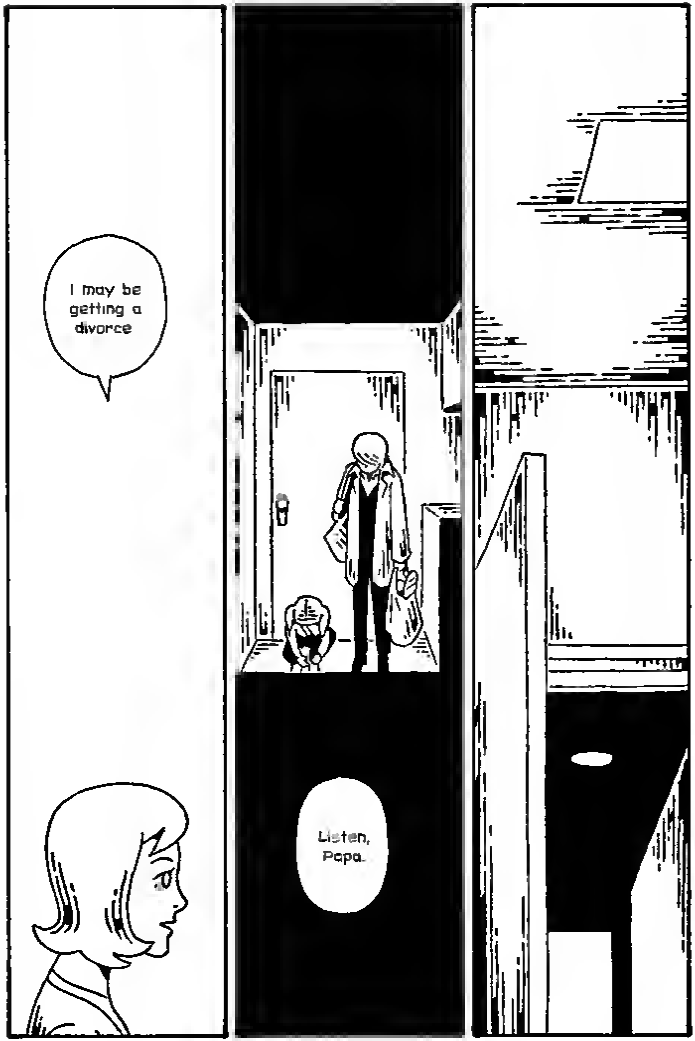

SE
三菱東京UFJ銀行
パート
専貸
貸
ミミハウス

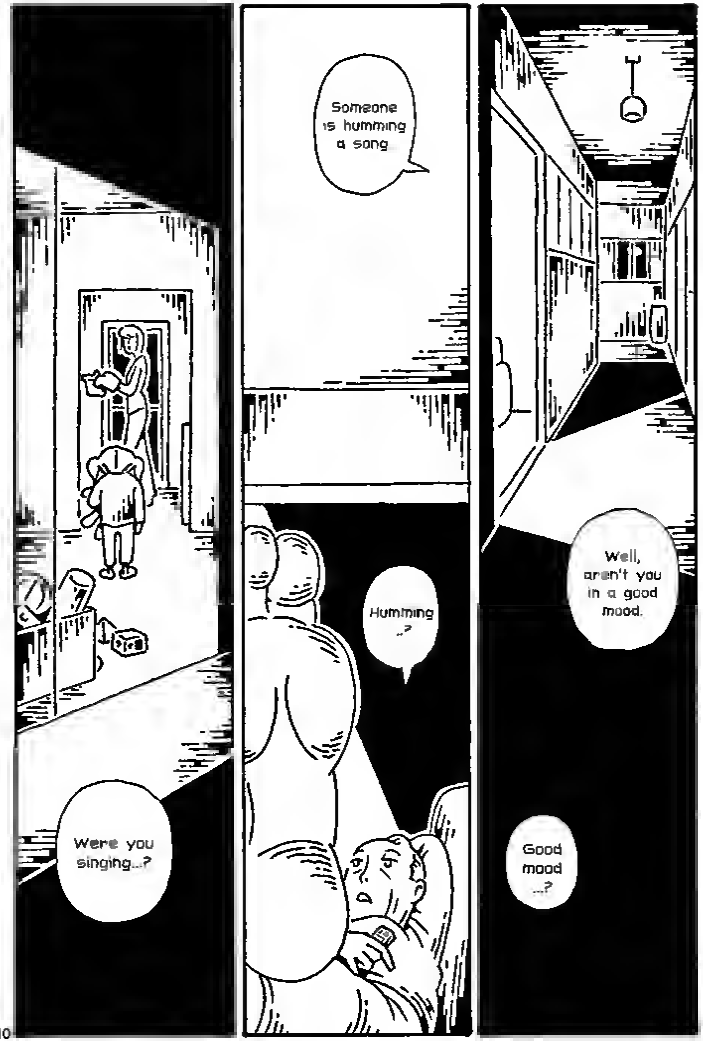

乾
小麦
MEAT
680
300

6

ふるさとの駅
昭和駅
7

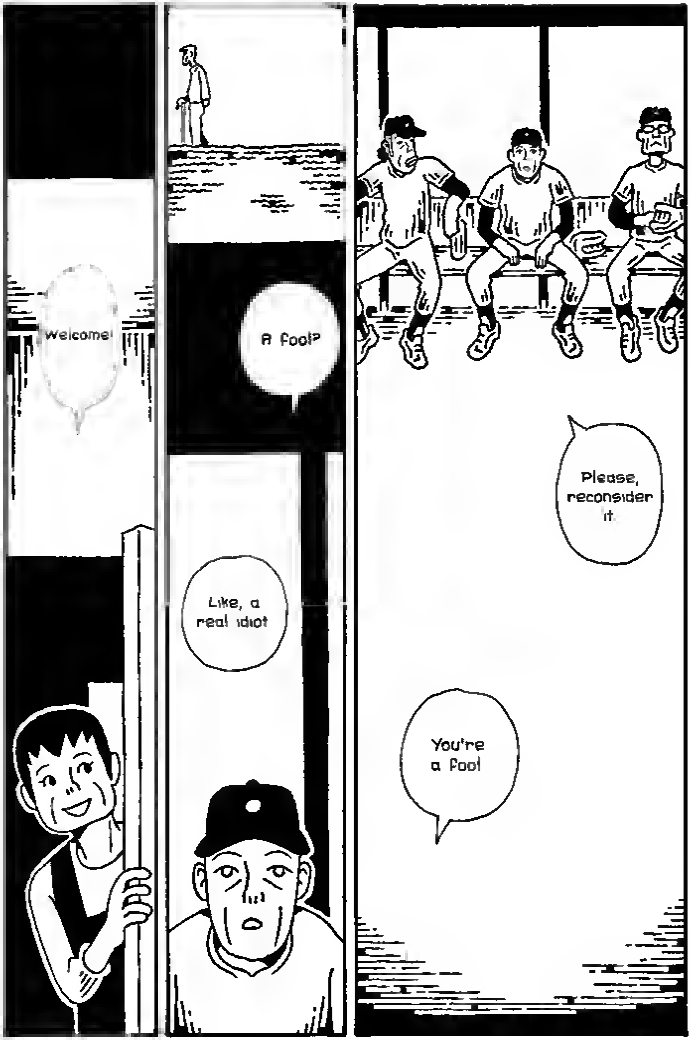


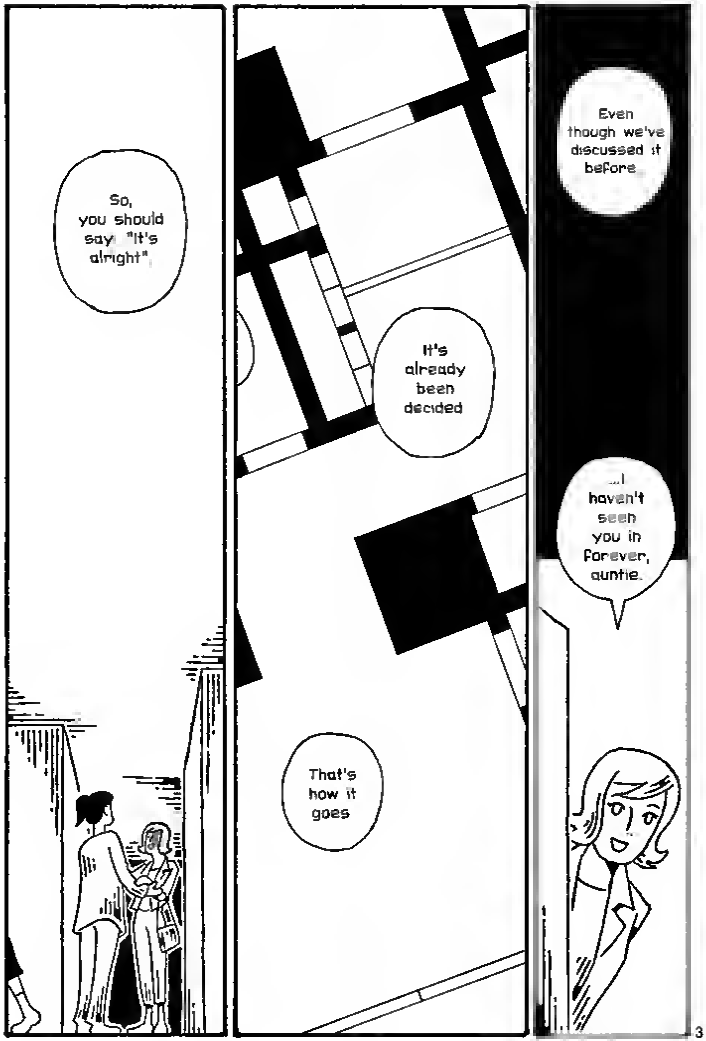

I may be getting a divorce
Listen, Papa.

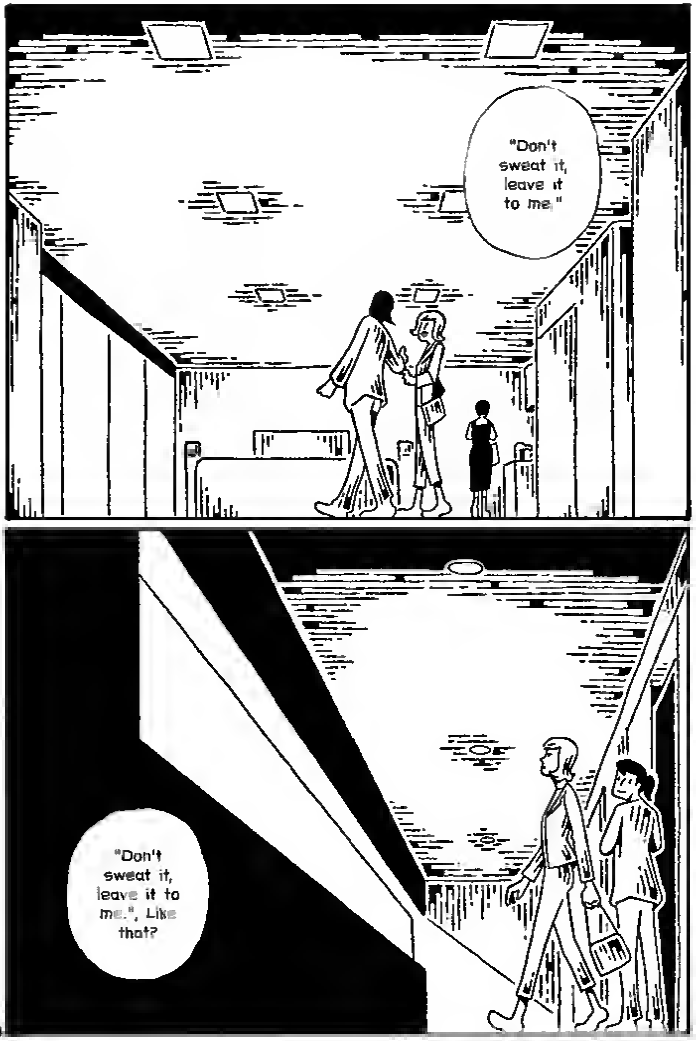

Were you singing...?
Someone is humming a song
Humming ...?
Well, aren't you in a good mood.
Good mood ...?

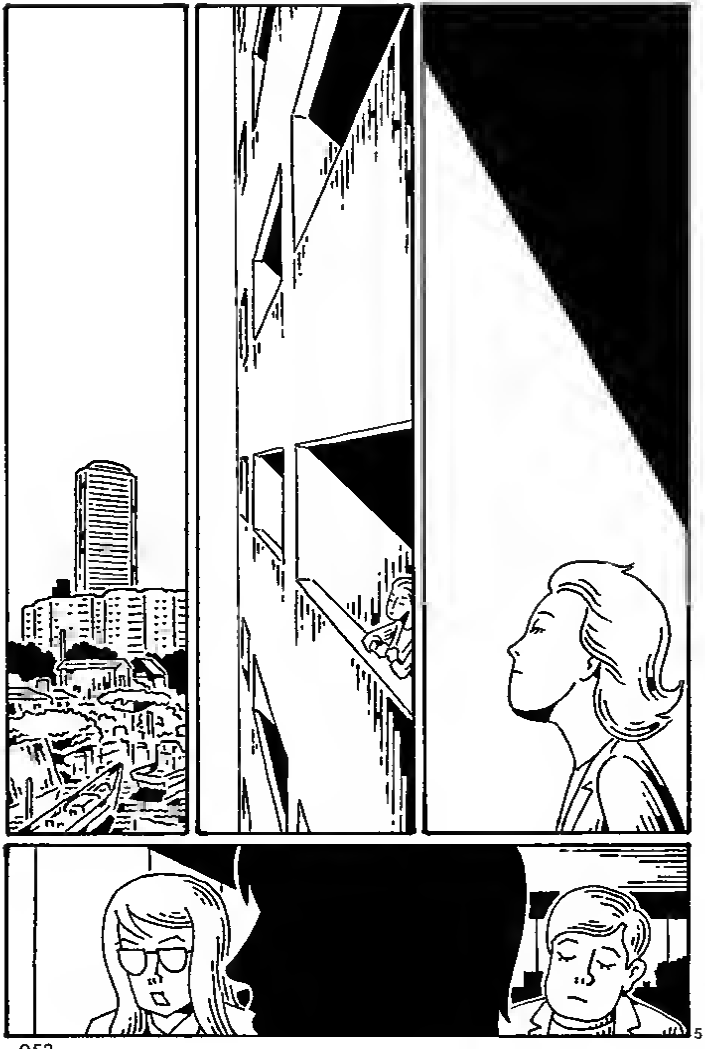
5

...so,
what kind of
answer did
you give?


Welcome!
A fool?
Like, a real idiot
Please, reconsider it.
You're a fool


So, you should say "It's alright".
That's how it goes
It's already been decided
Even though we've discussed it before.
...I haven't seen you in forever, auntie.


"Don't sweat it, leave it to me."
"Don't sweat it, leave it to me.". Like that?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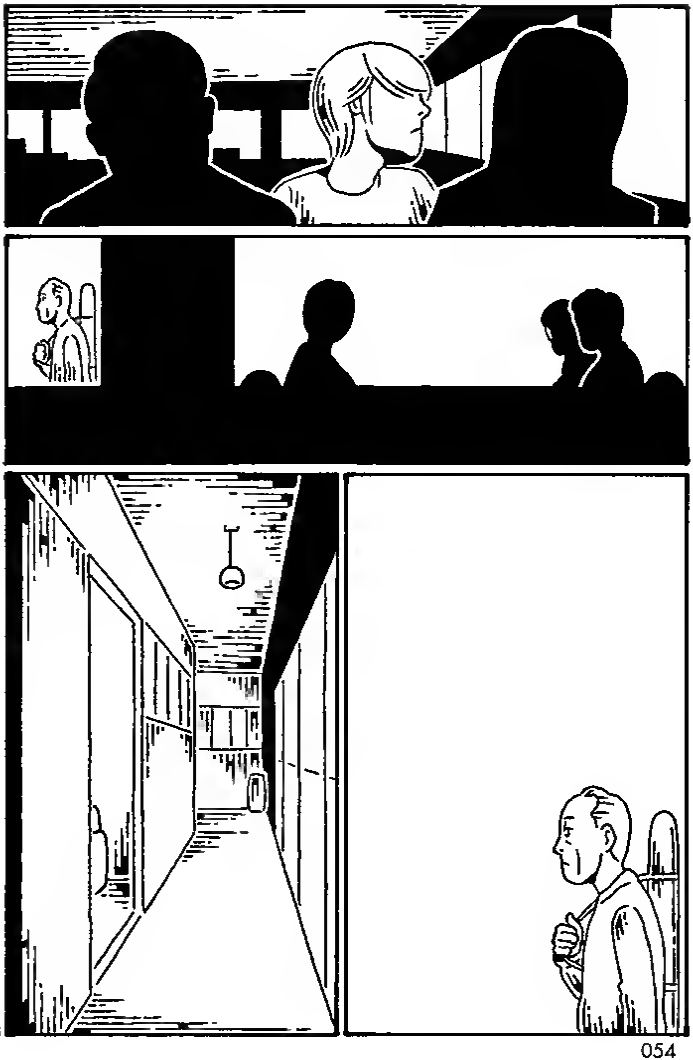
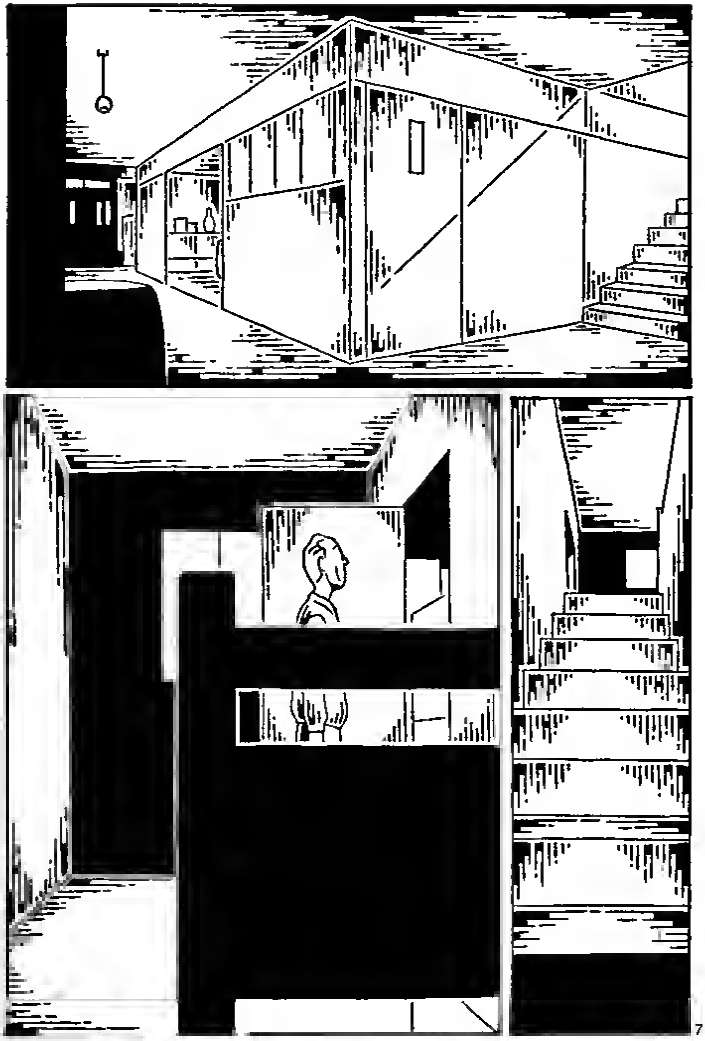
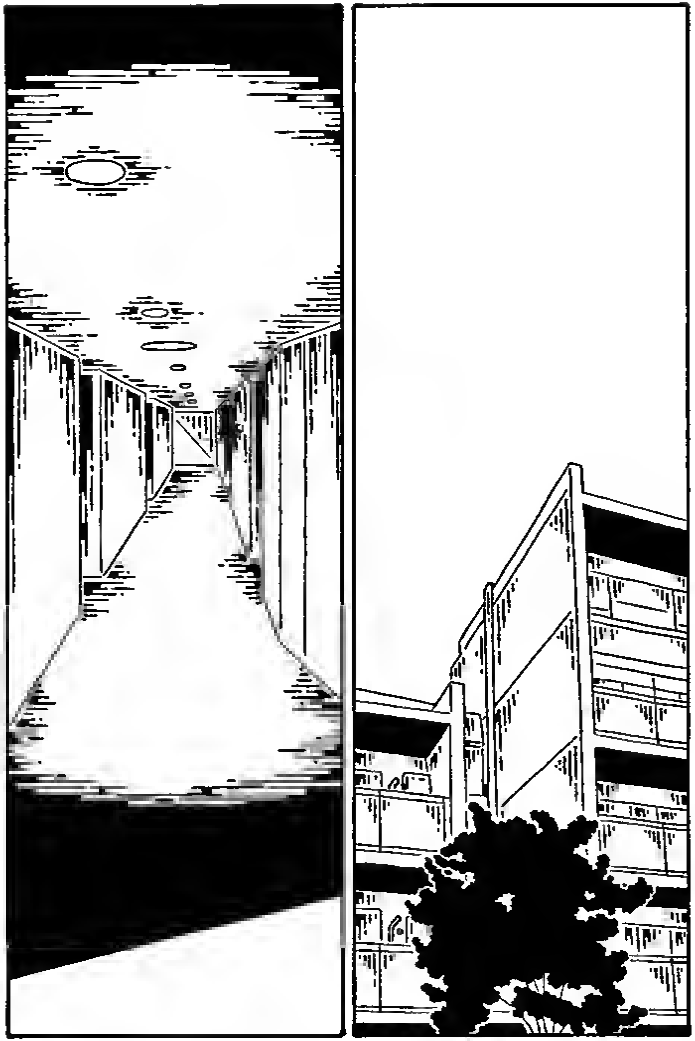
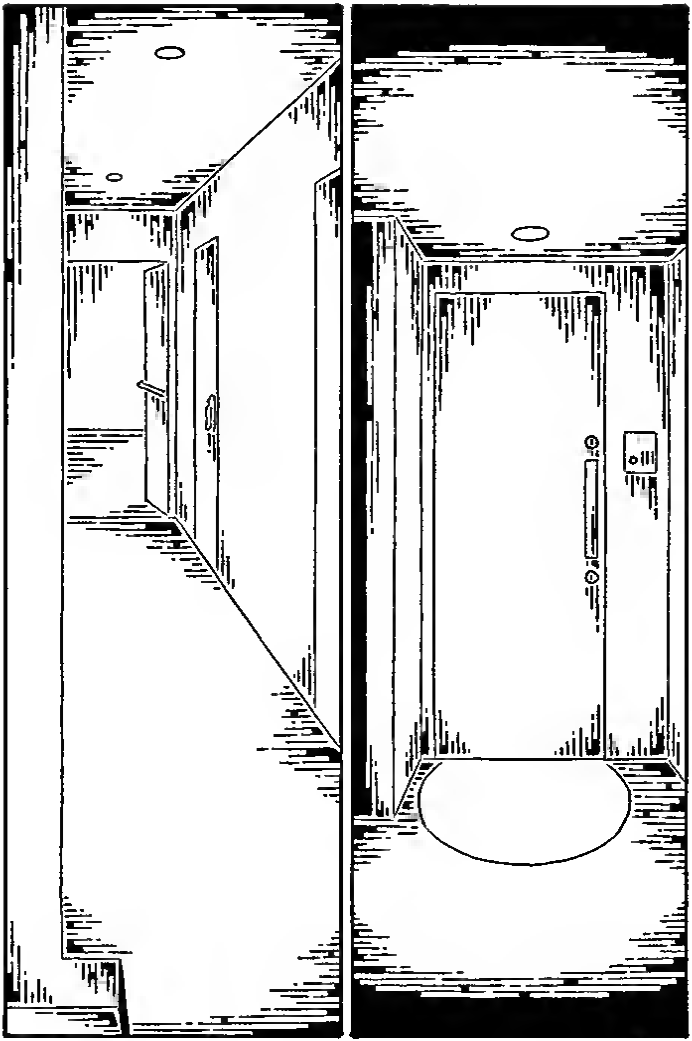




I've bought pork cutlet
You're quite anxious, aren't you?
A divorce isn't settled without a reason, right?

6





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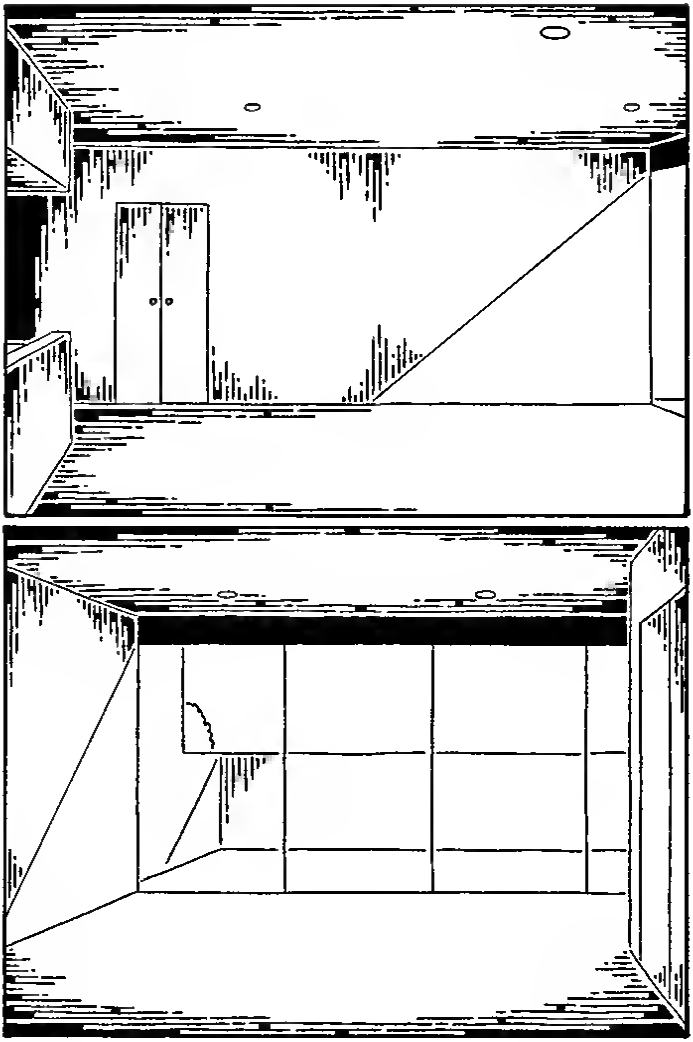

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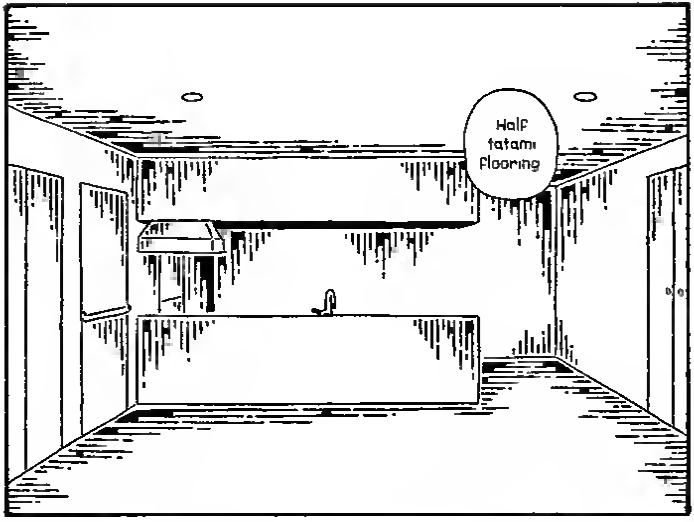
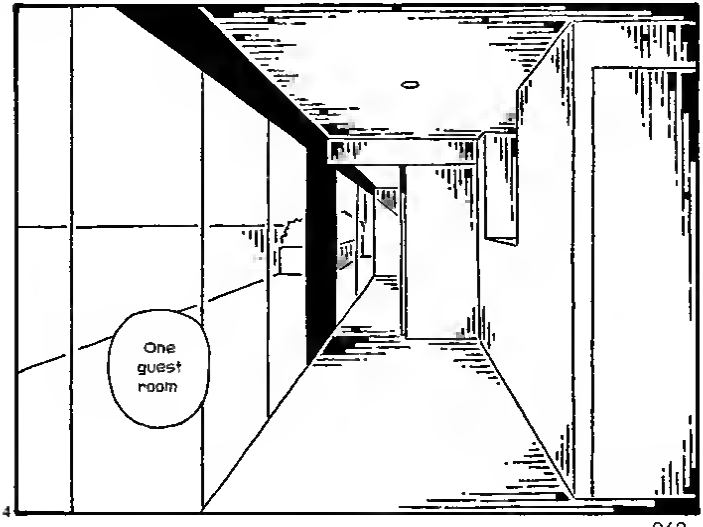
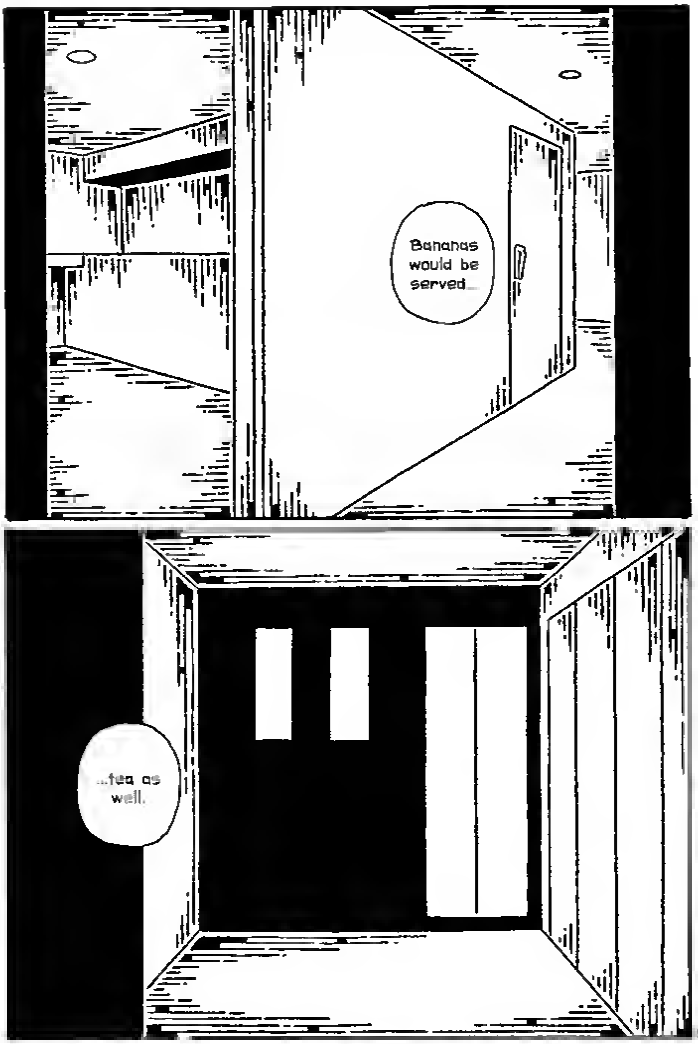
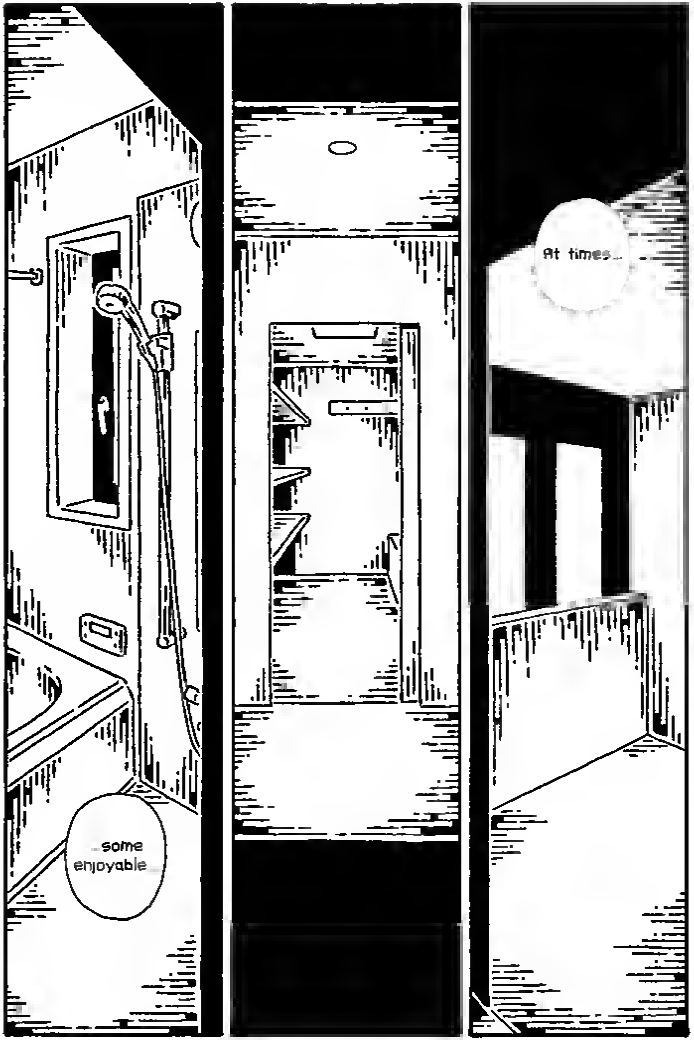
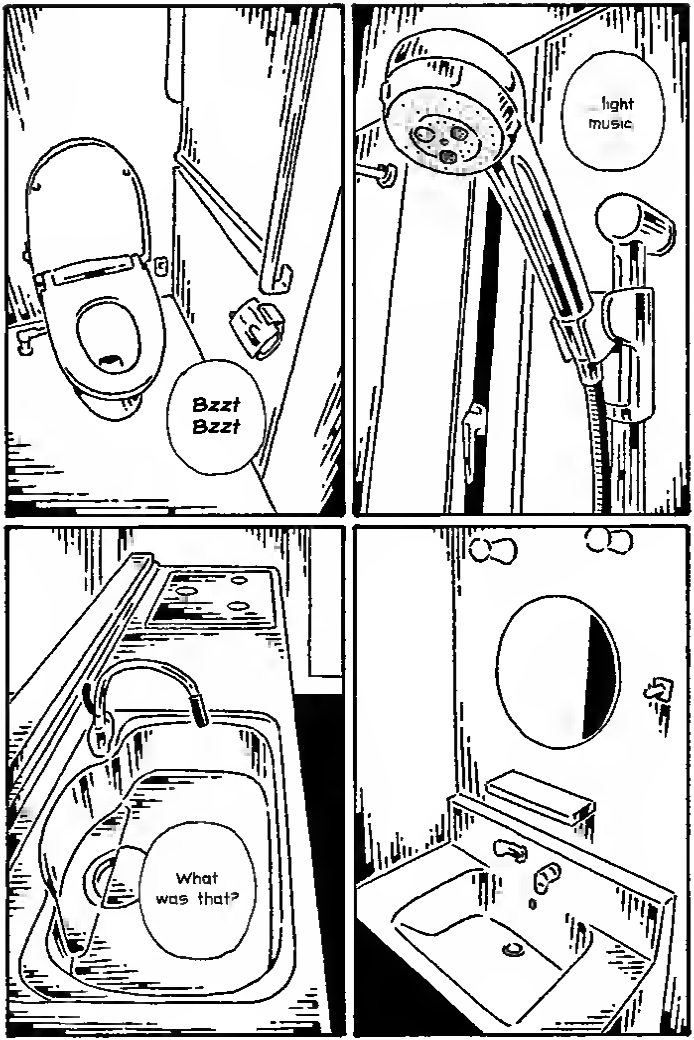
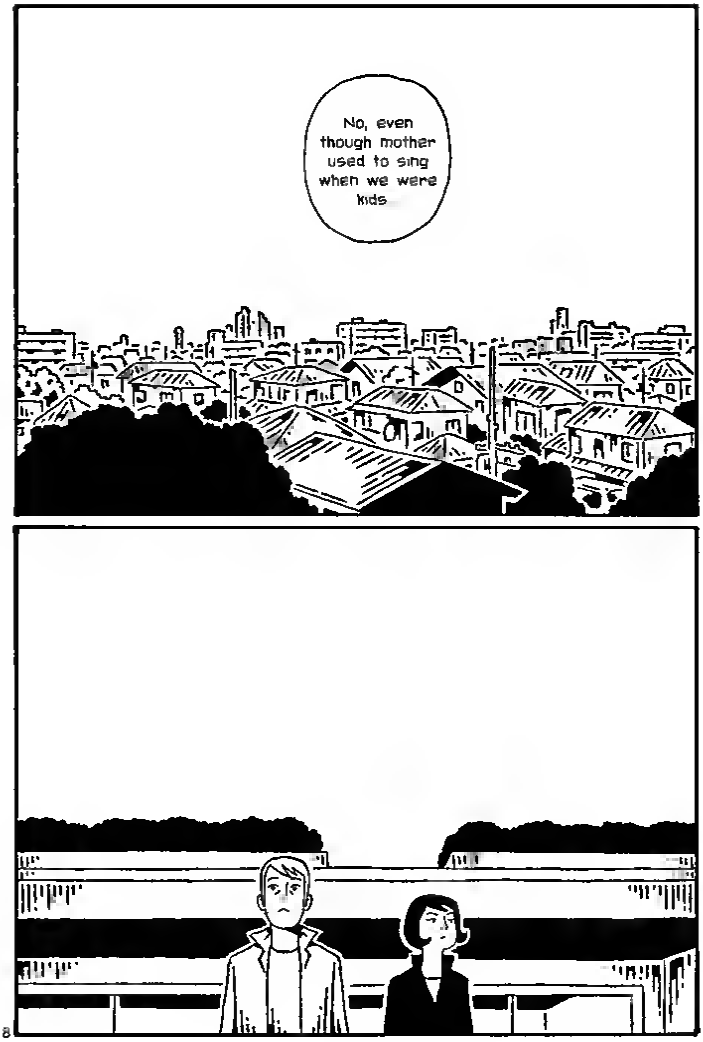

Half tatami flooring

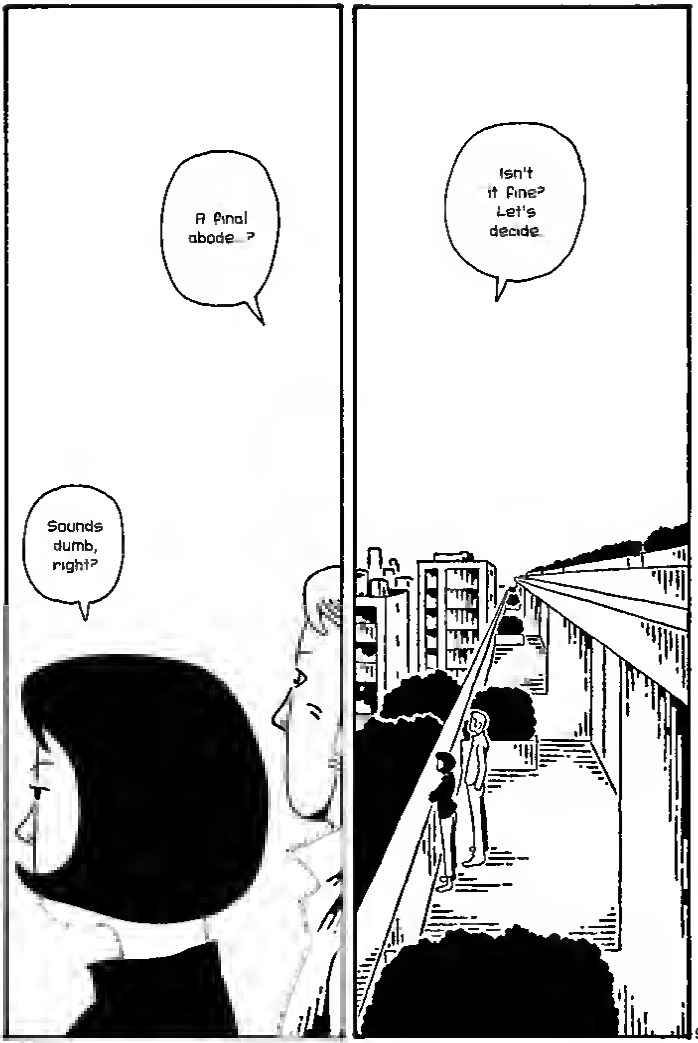

One guest room

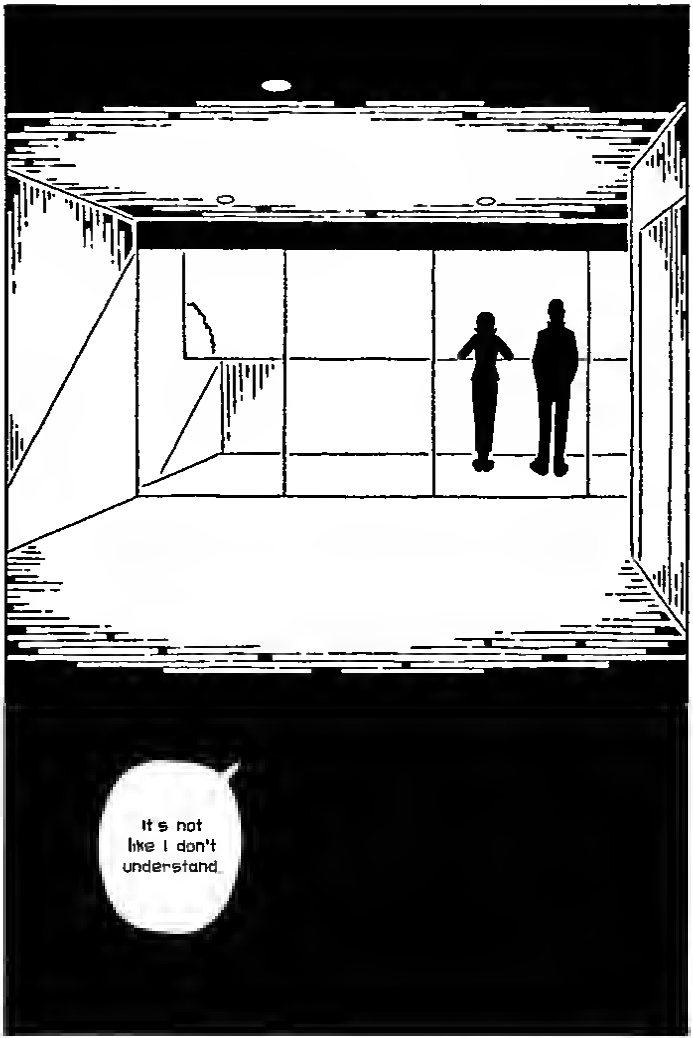

Bananas would be served...
...tea as well.


At times...
...some enjoyable...

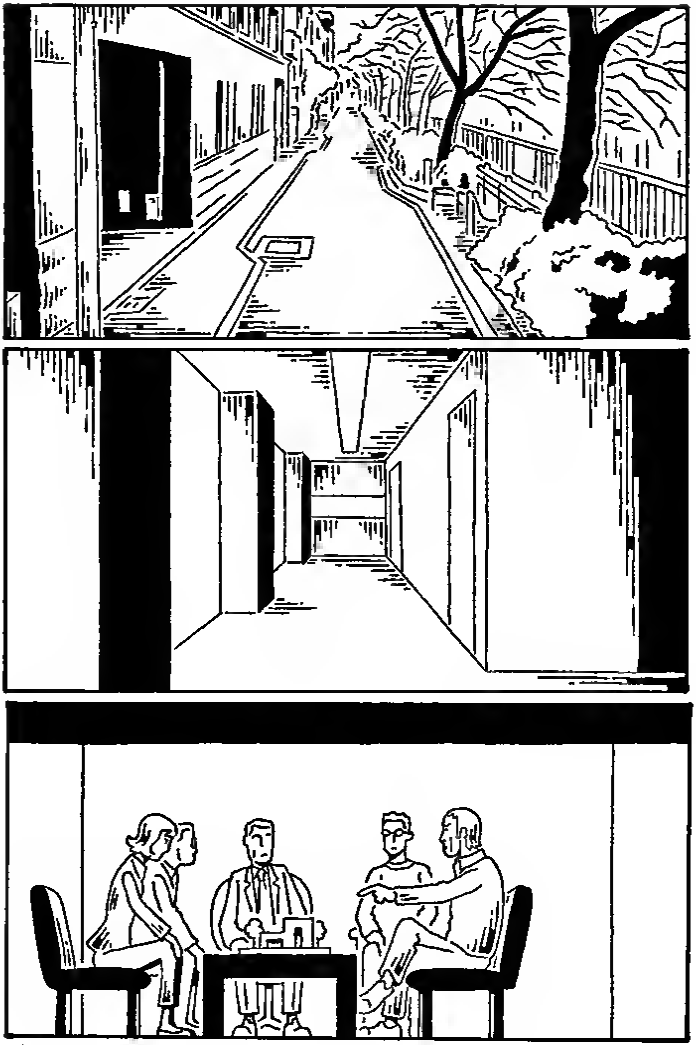

Bzzt
Bzzt
light
music
What
was that?


No, even though mother used to sing when we were kids


A final abode...?
Isn't it fine? Let's decide.
Sounds dumb, right?


It's not like I don't understand.

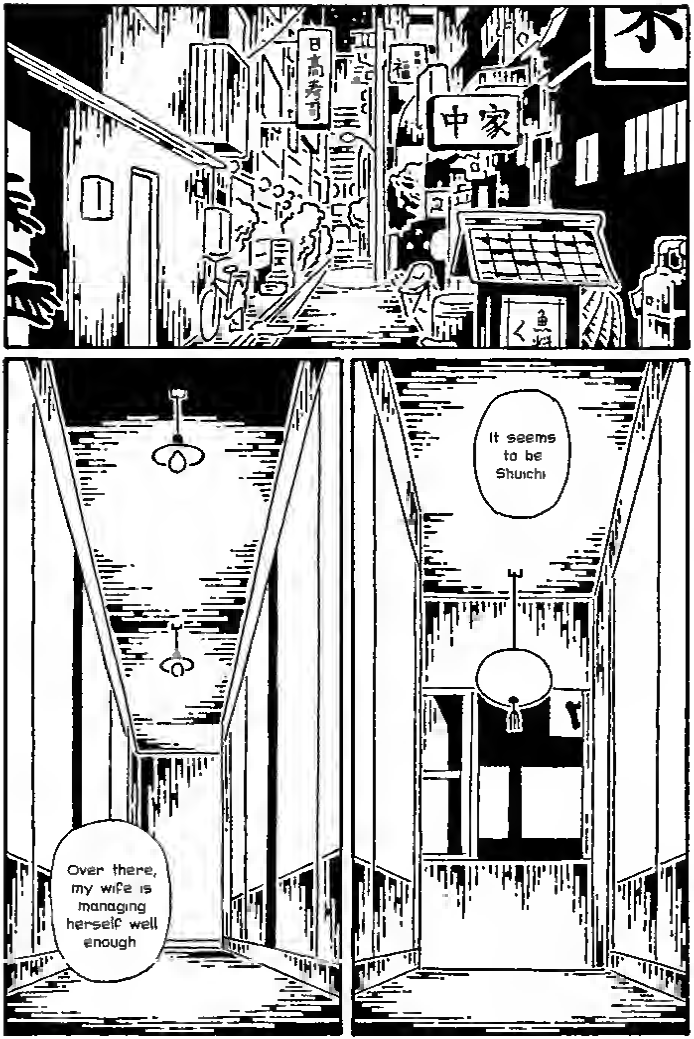
7

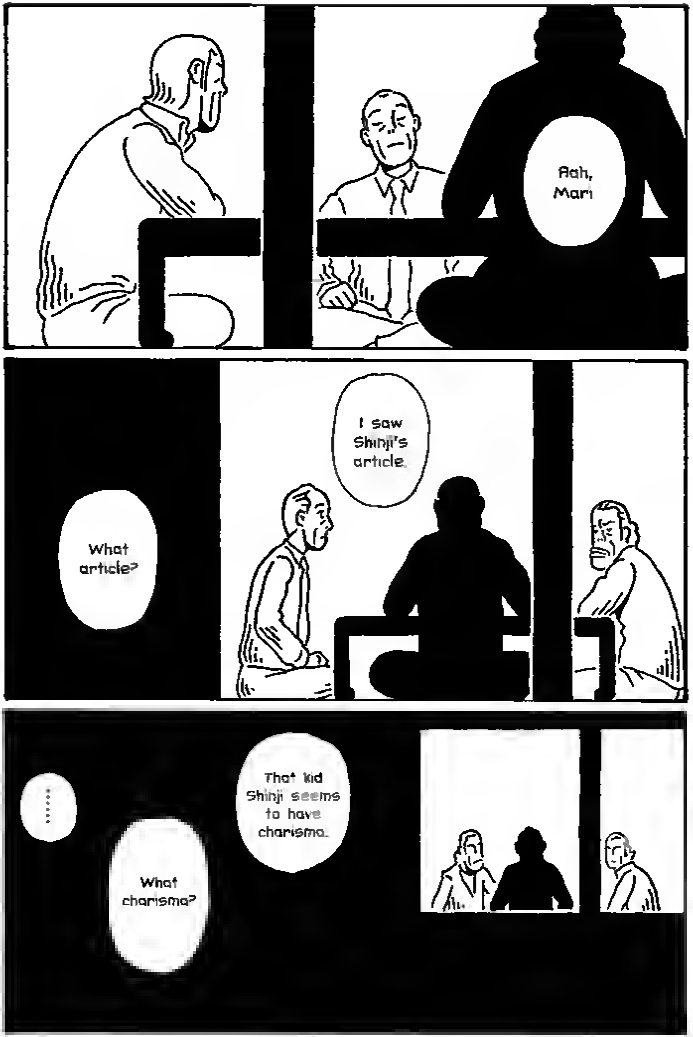


071

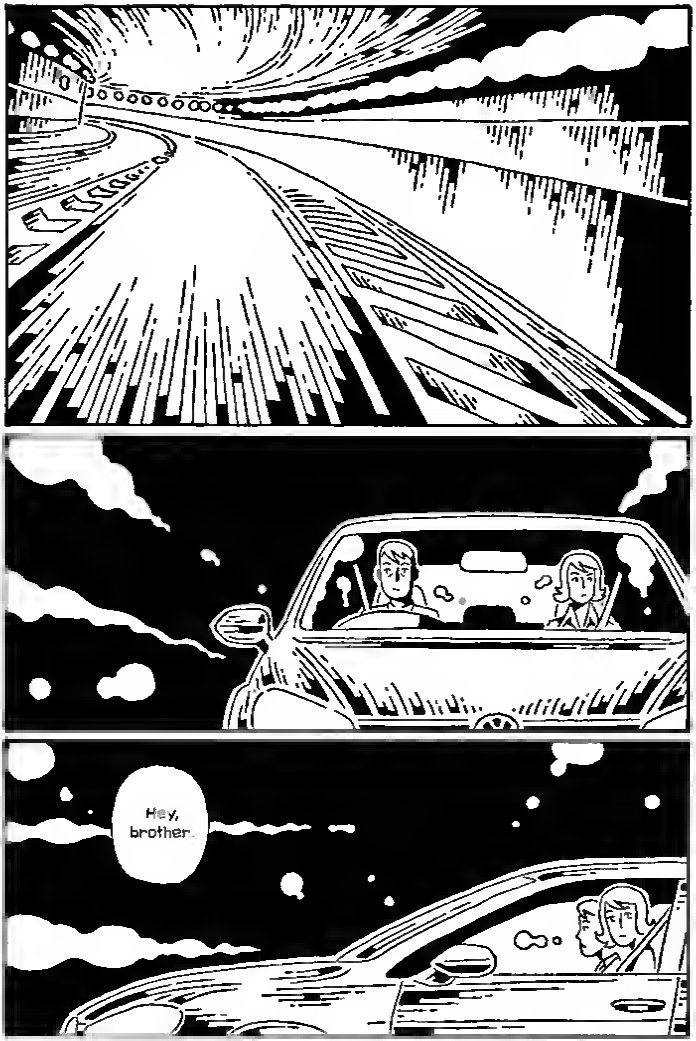
Nori
Are you going to divorce?
I've heard about it

A promissory note...
Here you go
MIZUHO
It's a transfer.


中家
It seems to be Shuichi
Over there, my wife is managing herself well enough

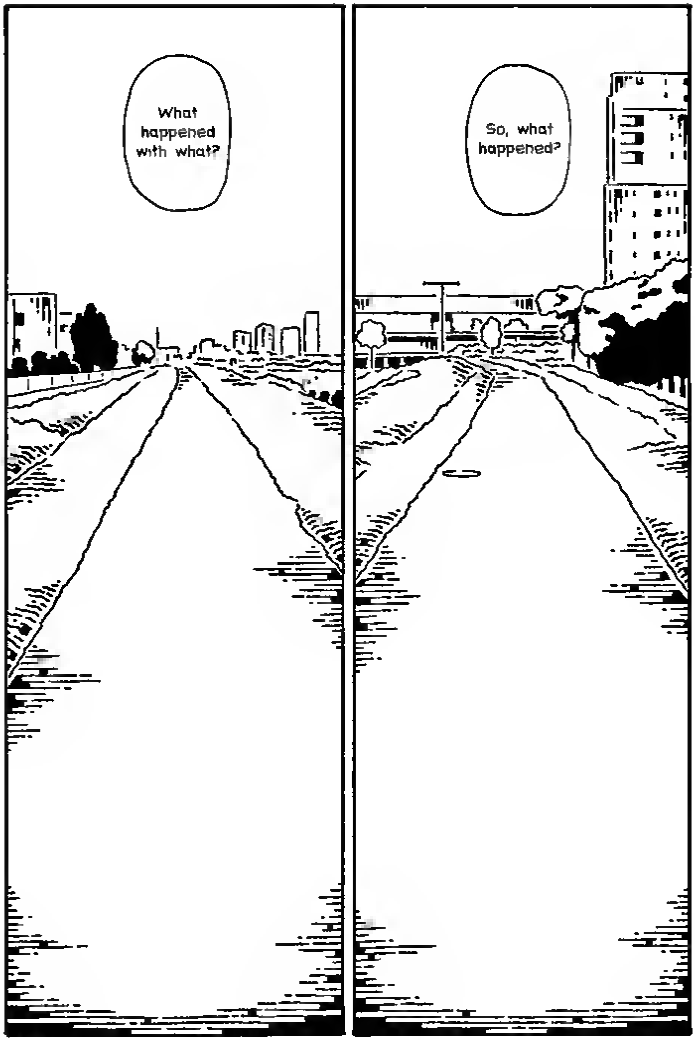

Aah, Mari
I saw Shinji's article.
What article?
That kid Shinji seems to have charisma.
What charisma?
.....

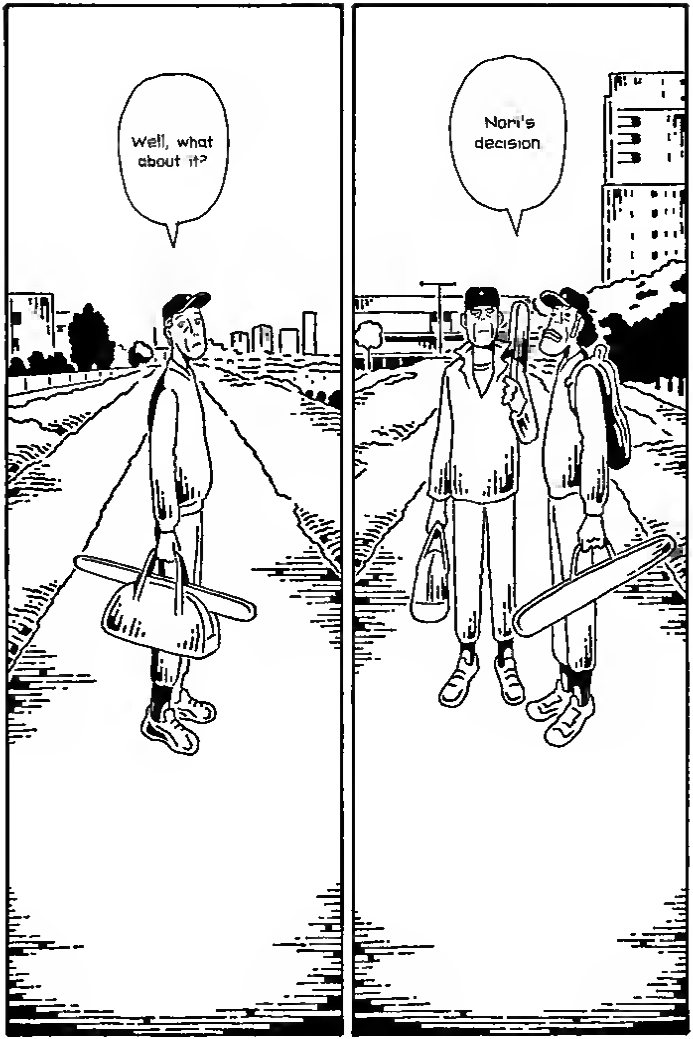
I shouldn't have bothered showing him. The promissory note.
It's the looks. His looks.
So...
...your divorce is settled then?

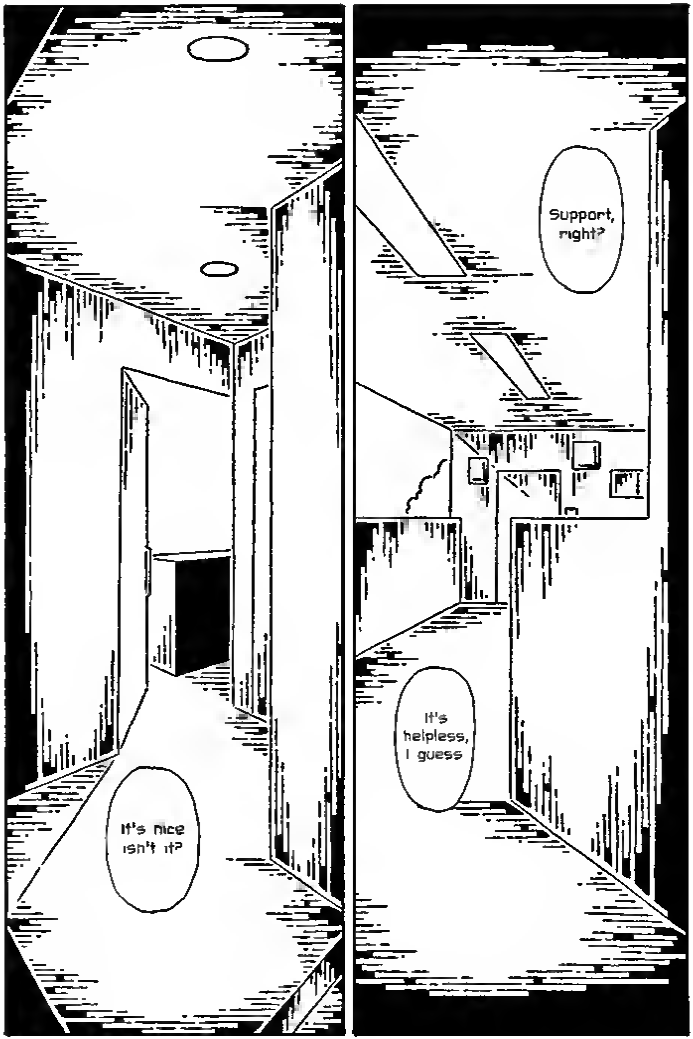

Hey, brother.

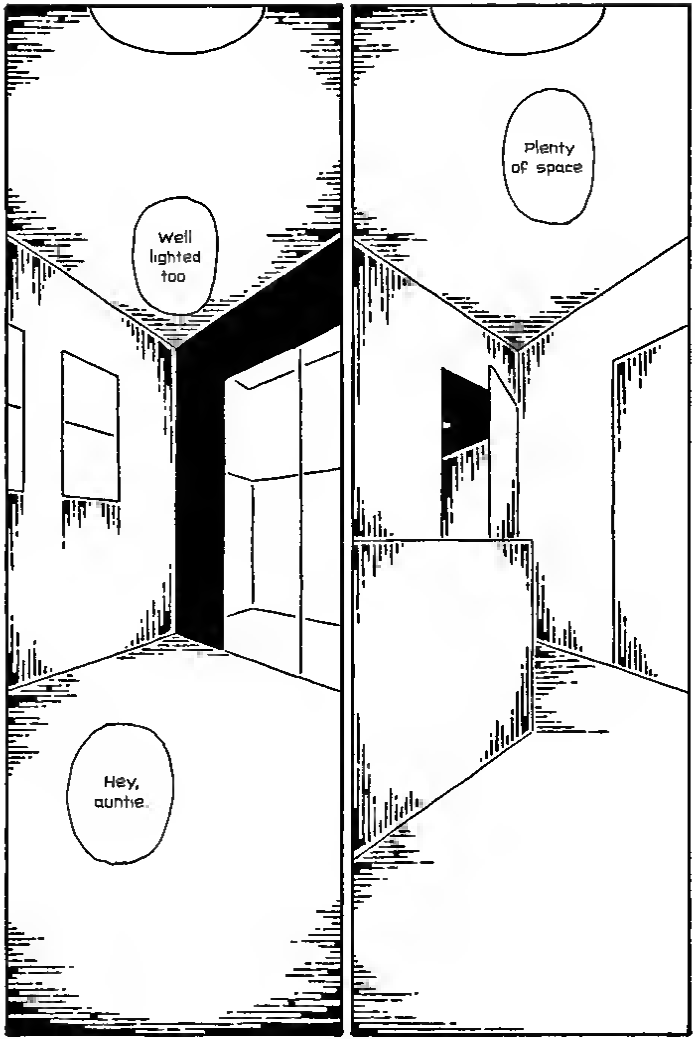
Do you remember mama's home?

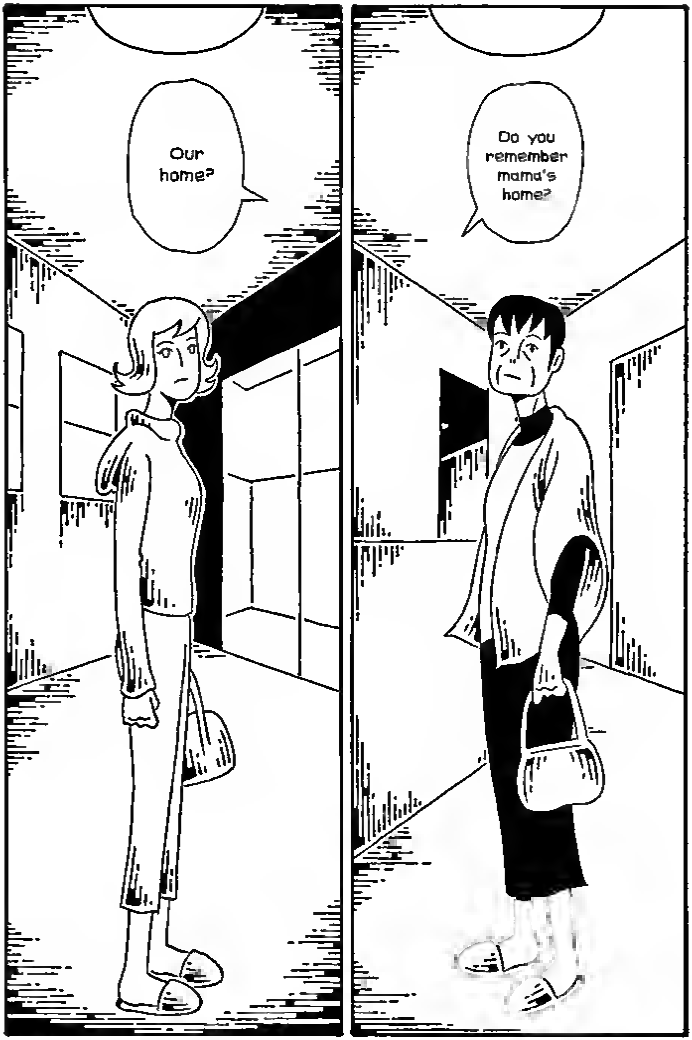
8

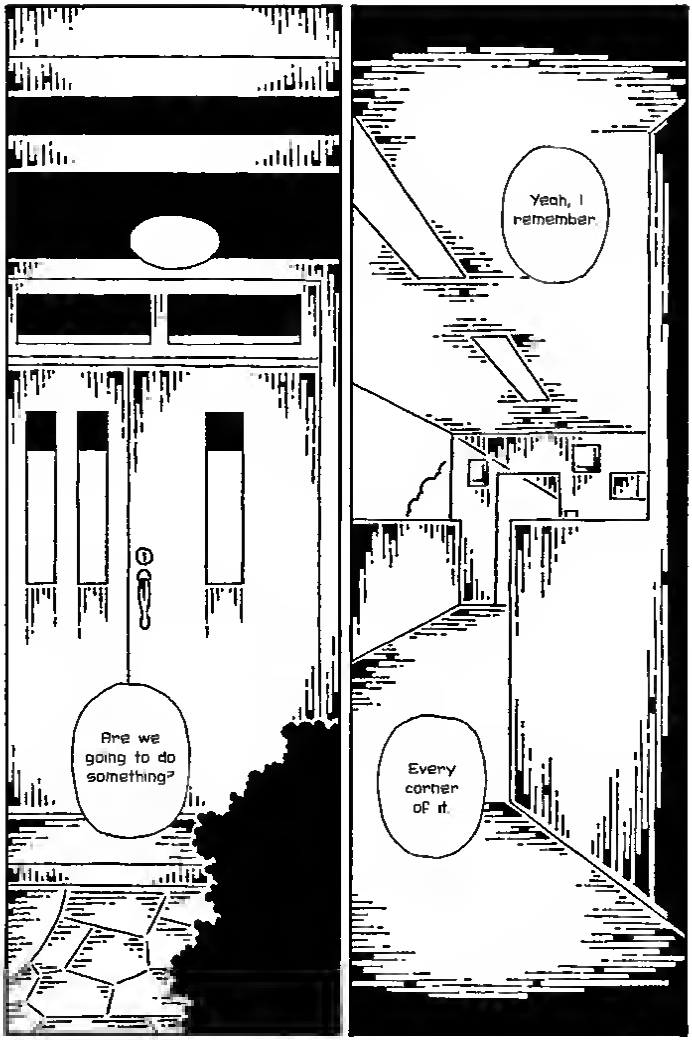

What happened with what?
So, what happened?

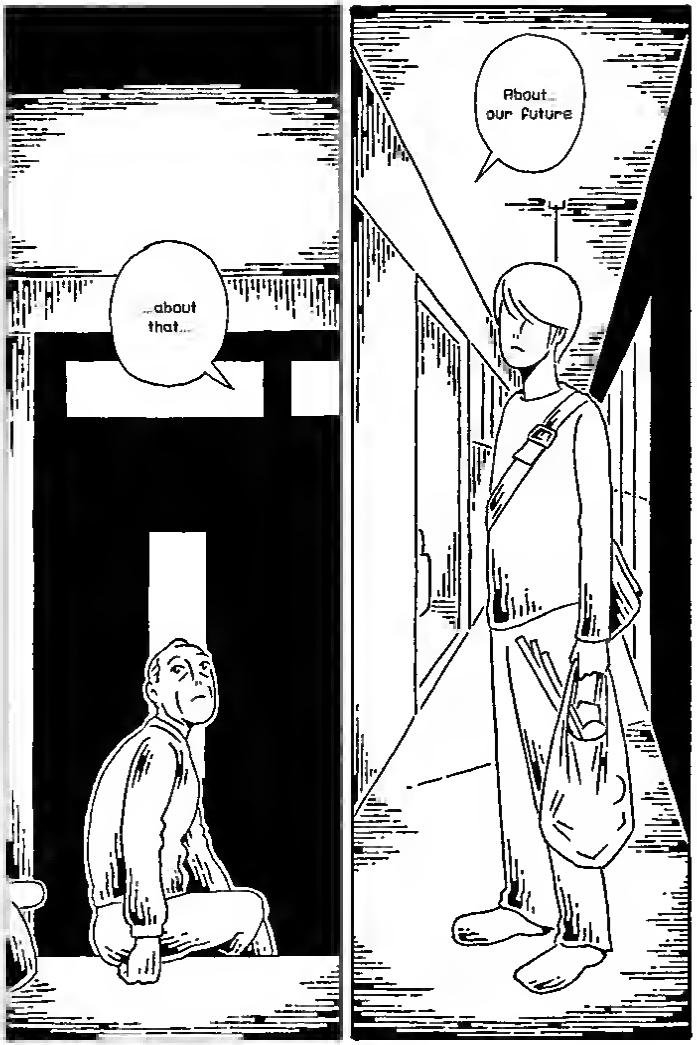

Well, what about it?
Nori's decision

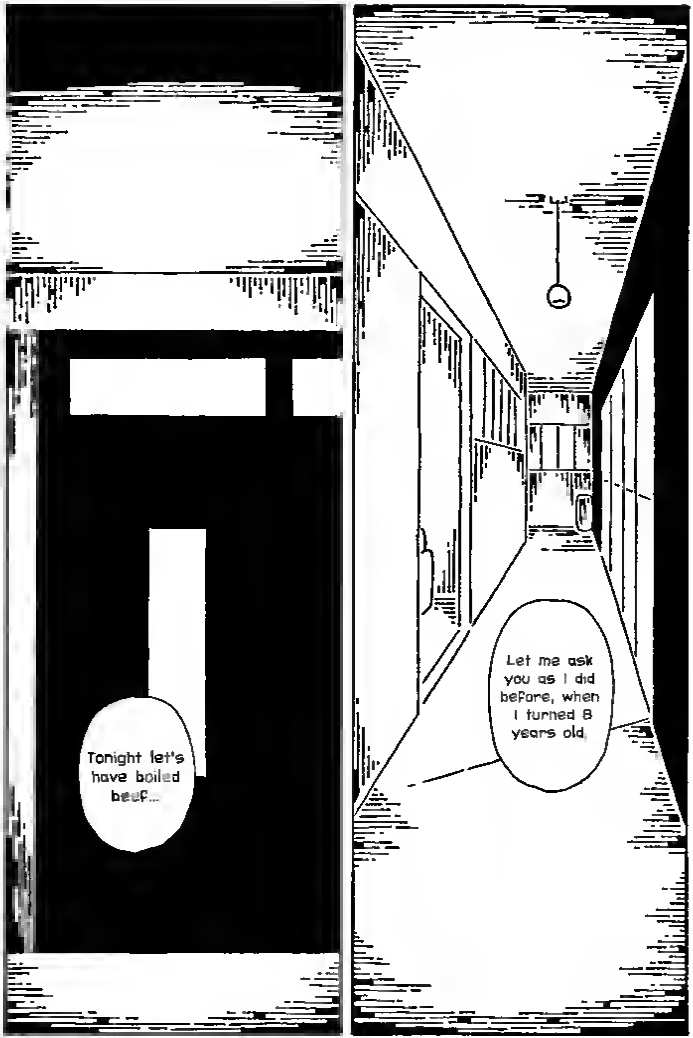

It's nice isn't it?
It's helpless, I guess
Support, right?


Well lighted too
Plenty of space
Hey, auntie

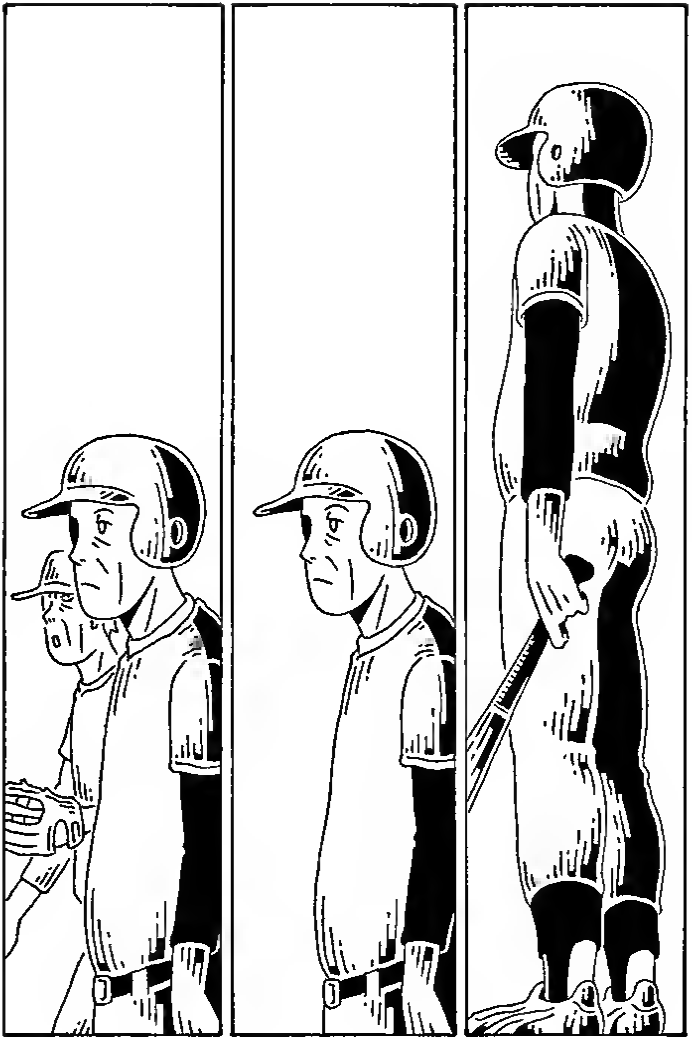

Our home?
Do you remember mama's home?


Are we going to do something?
Yeah, I remember.
Every corner of it.


About... our future
...about that...


Tonight let's have boiled beef...
Let me ask you as I did before, when I turned 8 years old

9



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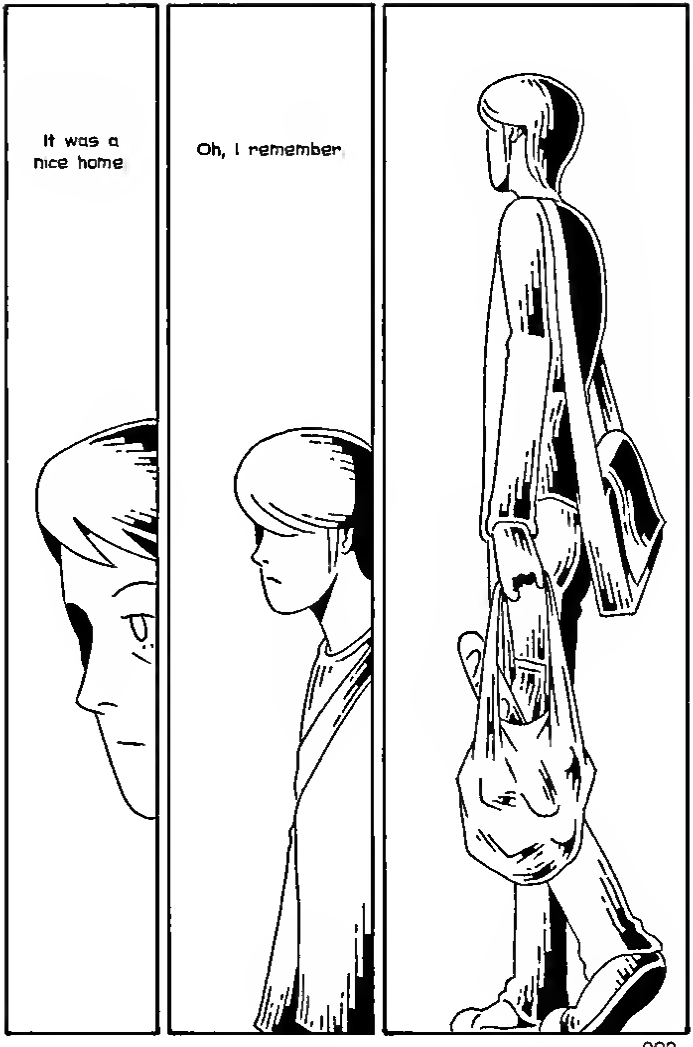
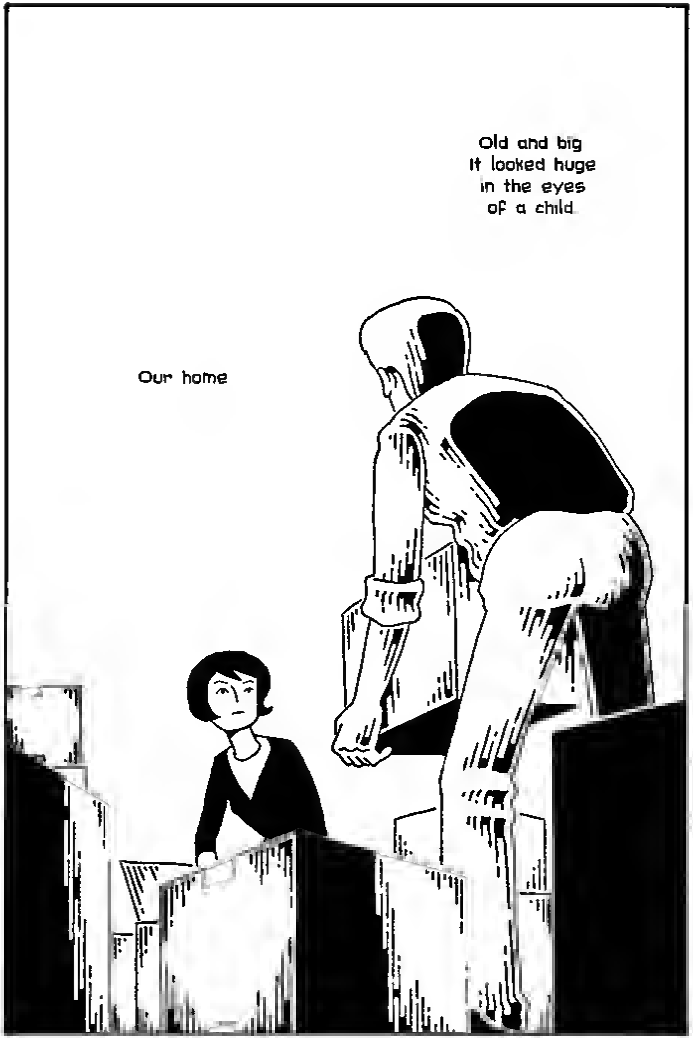
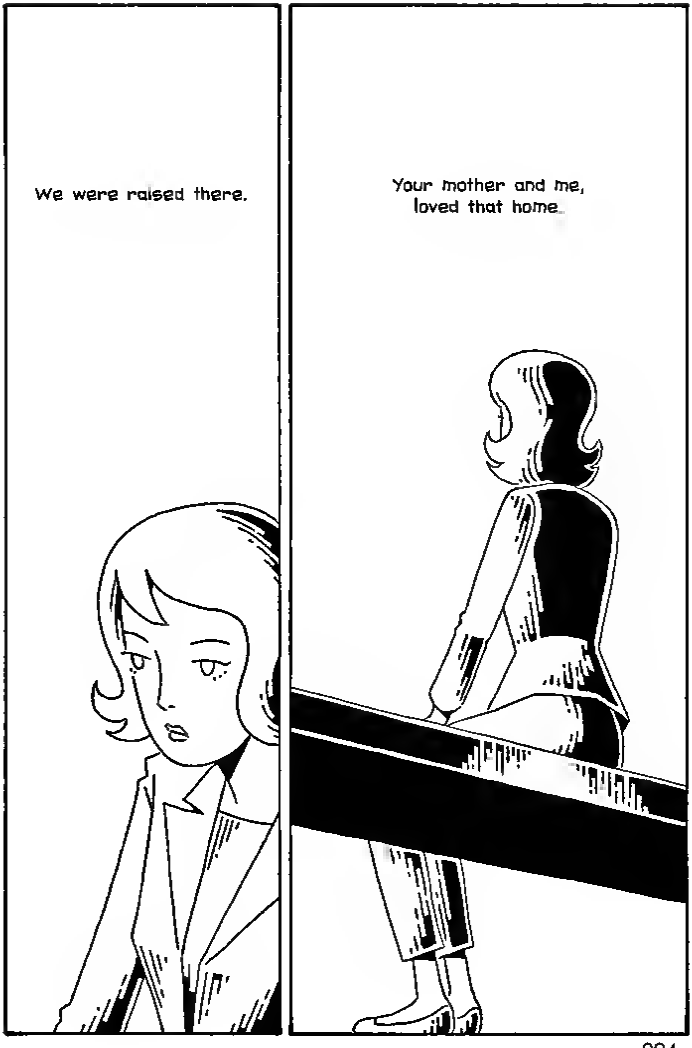
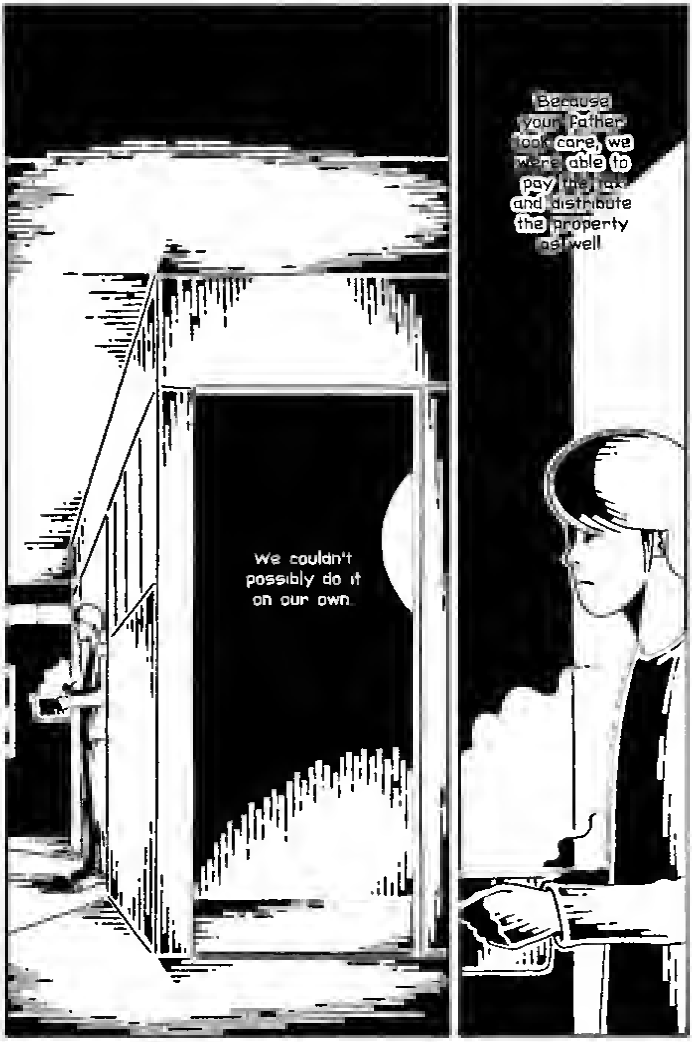

It was a nice home
Oh, I remember


Old and big
It looked huge
in the eyes
of a child
Our home

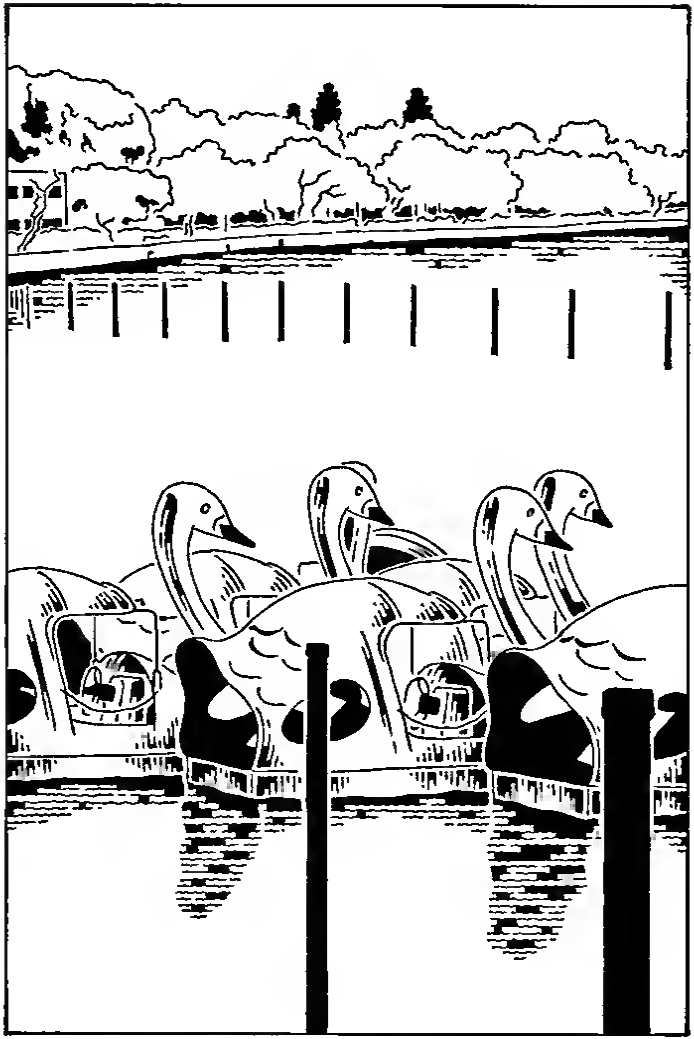

We were raised there.
Your mother and me, loved that home.

I'm very grateful to your father
Since you were just kids we didn't know how the inheritence tax was supposed to work
I wonder why such a splendid house got destroyed
It was a mystery to us


We couldn't possibly do it on our own.
Because your father took care, we were able to pay the tax and distribute the property as well.

Given that we cherished that home so much

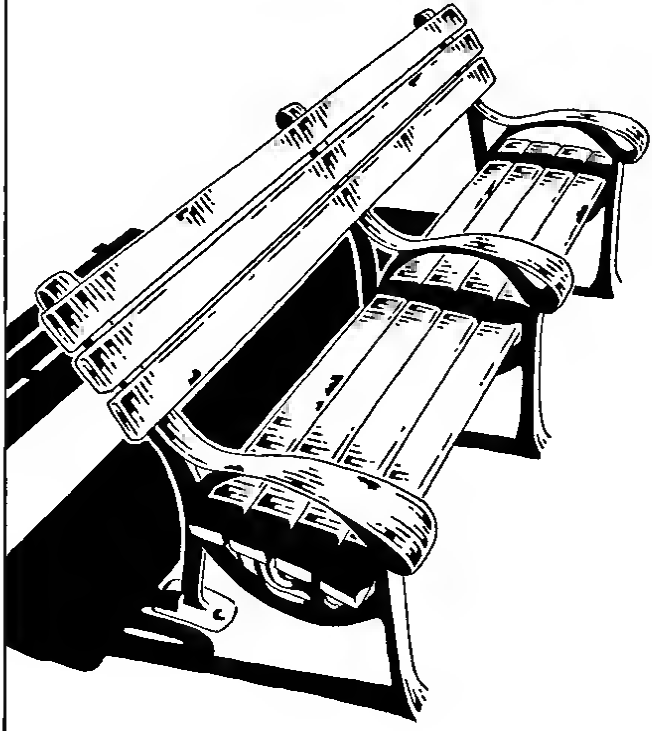
10



Do you remember mama's home?
Hey, papa

Mom told me—

The home of grandpa and grandma? Of course I remember. But how do you remember it, though?



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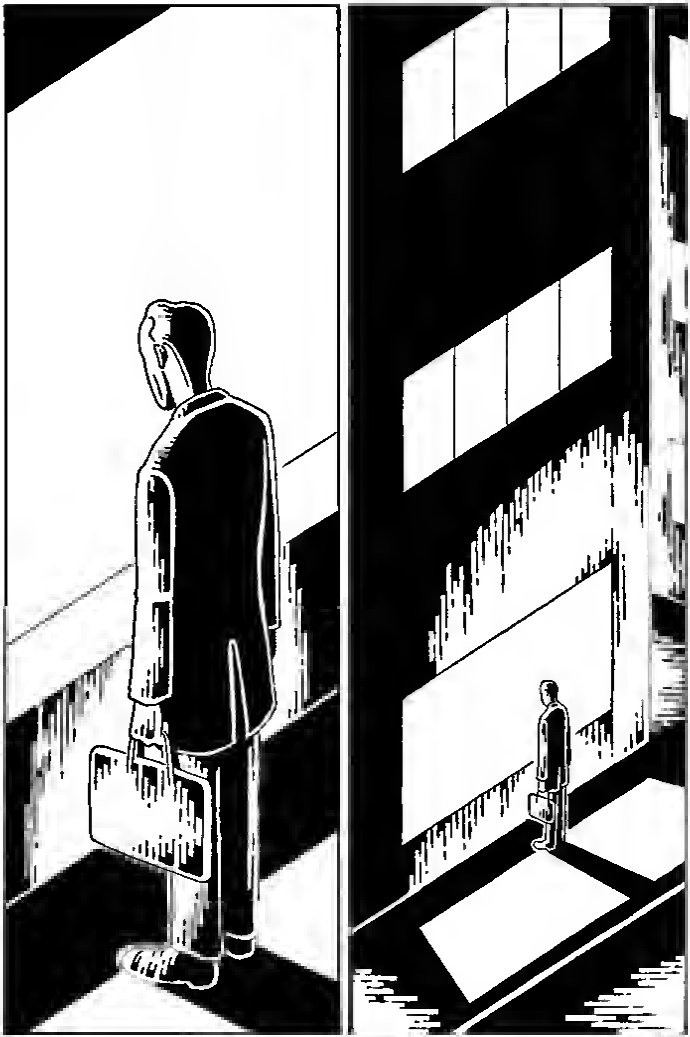
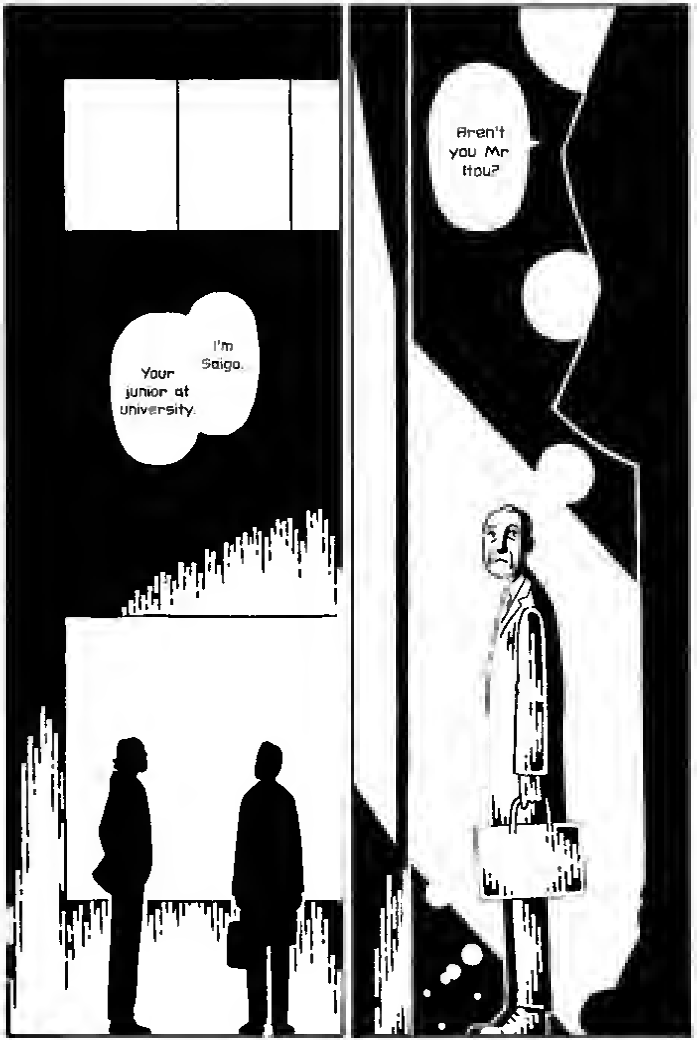
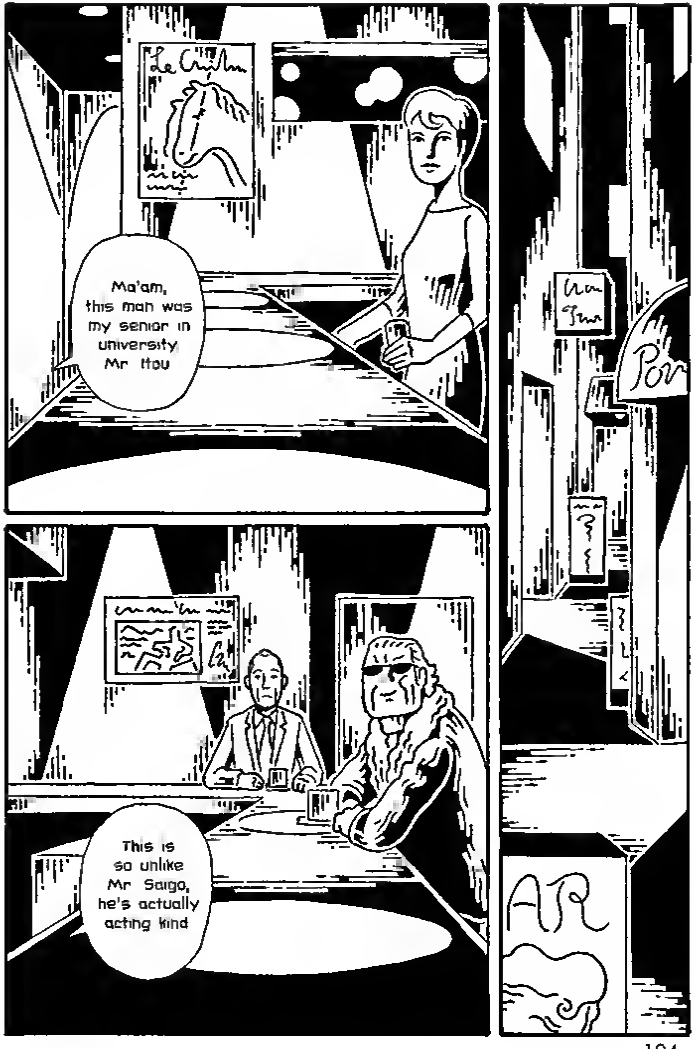
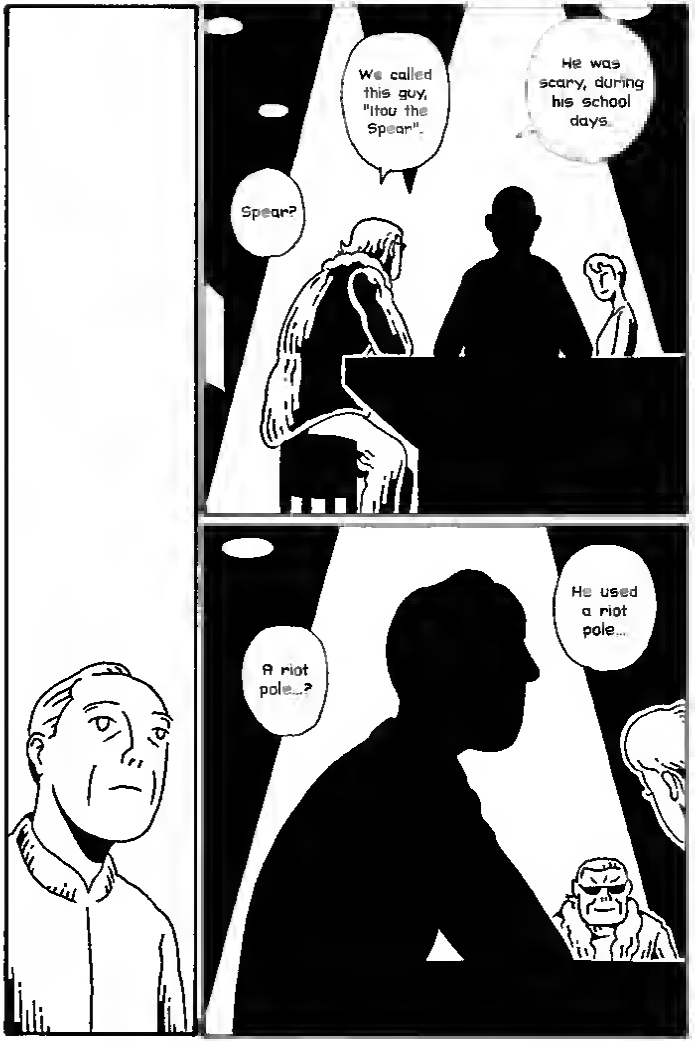
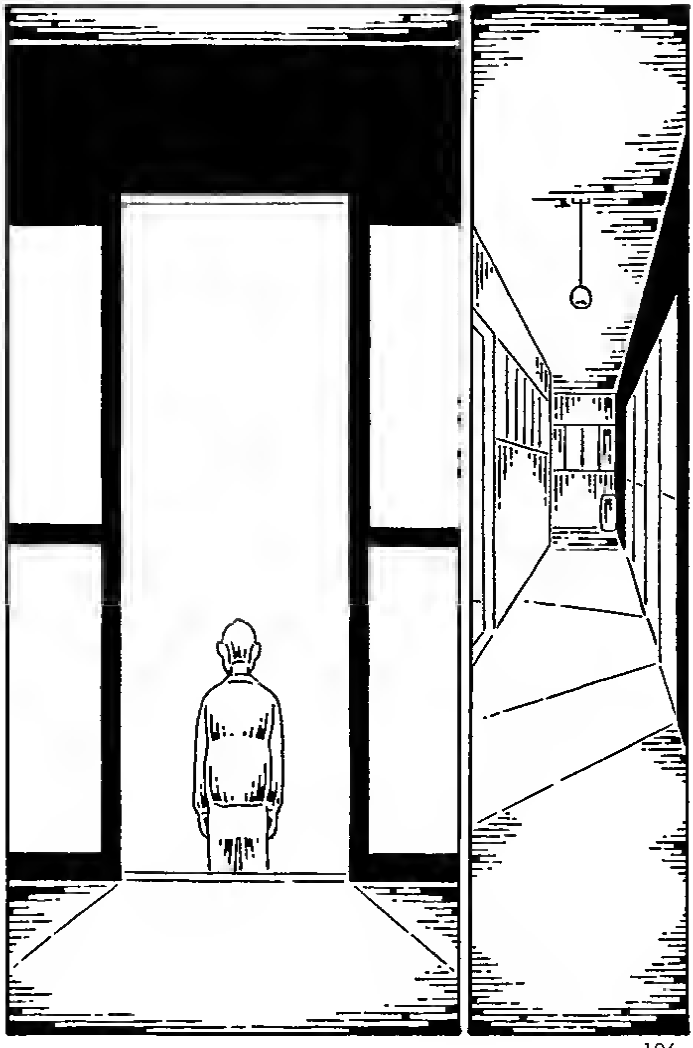
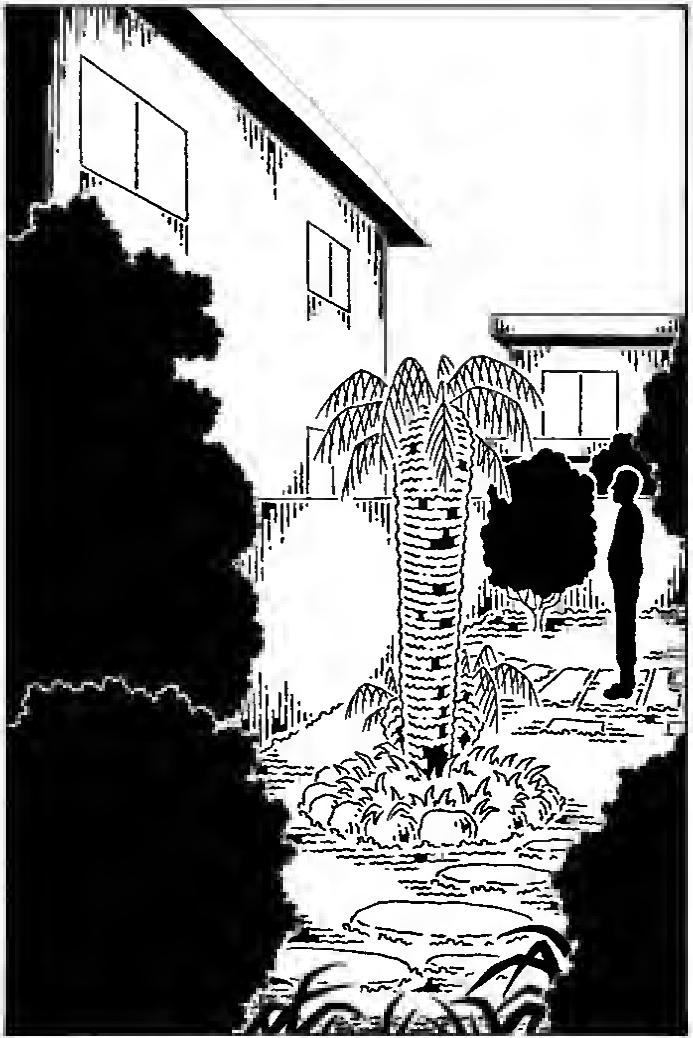



Aren't you Mr Itou?
I'm Saigo.
Your junior at university.


Ma'am, this man was my senior in university Mr Hou
This is so unlike Mr Saigo, he's actually acting kind
POV
AR


We called this guy, "Itou the Spear".
He was scary, during his school days.
Spear?
He used a riot pole...
A riot pole...?
7





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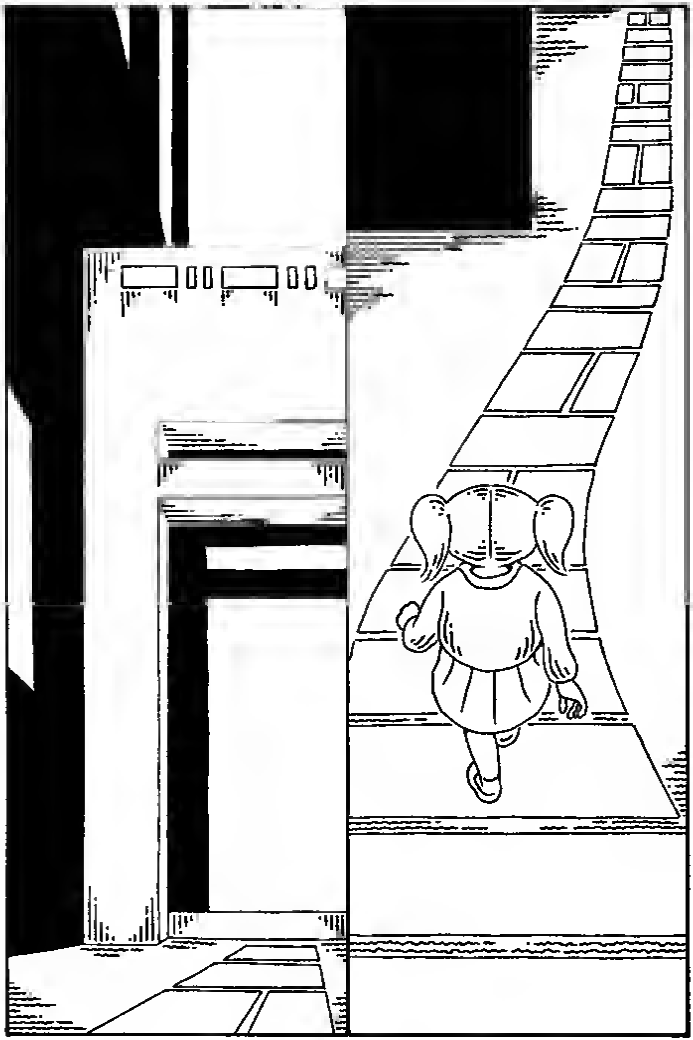
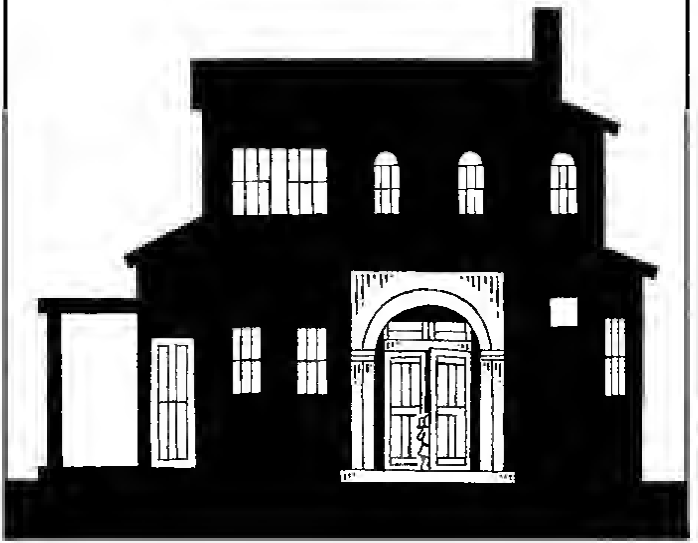


11

Therein, a garden of
supreme beauty existed, one with
a mysterious atmosphere.



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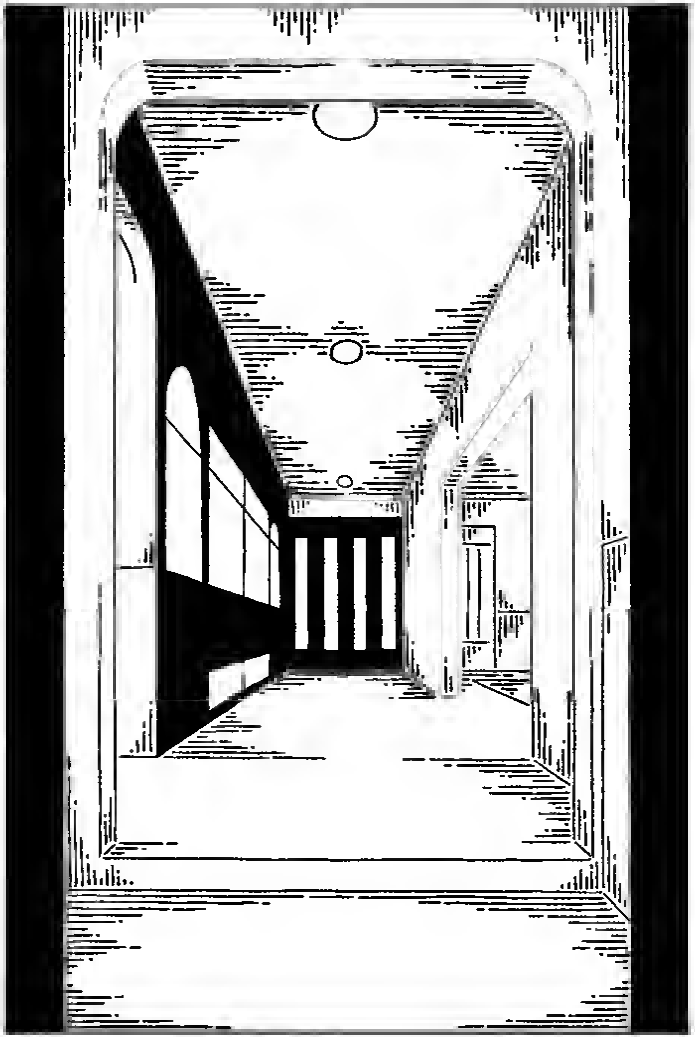

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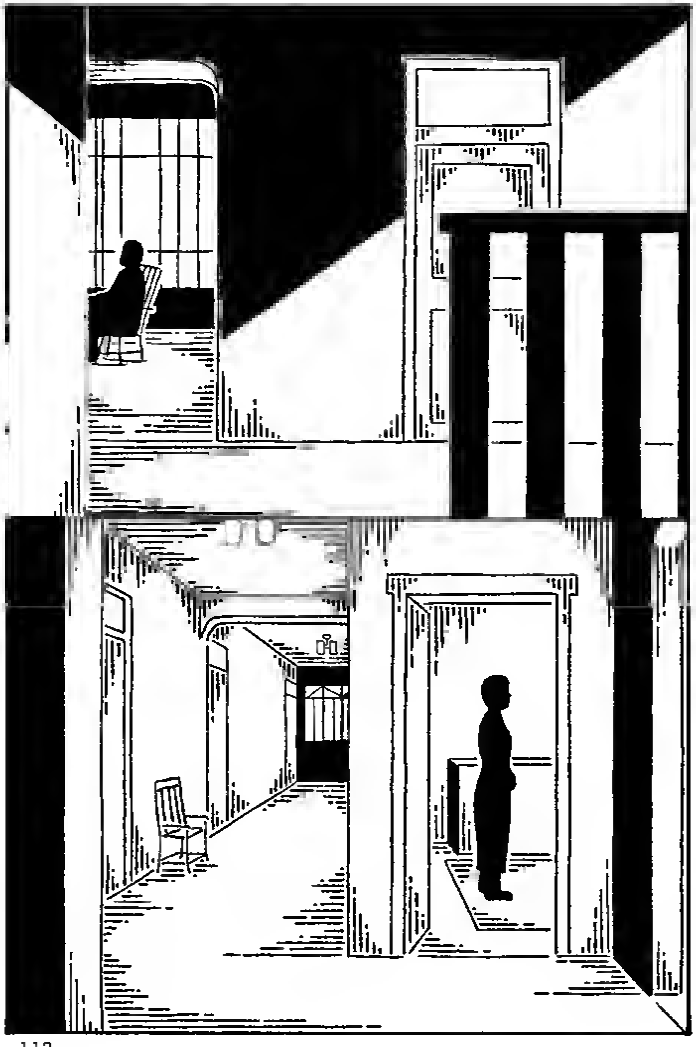

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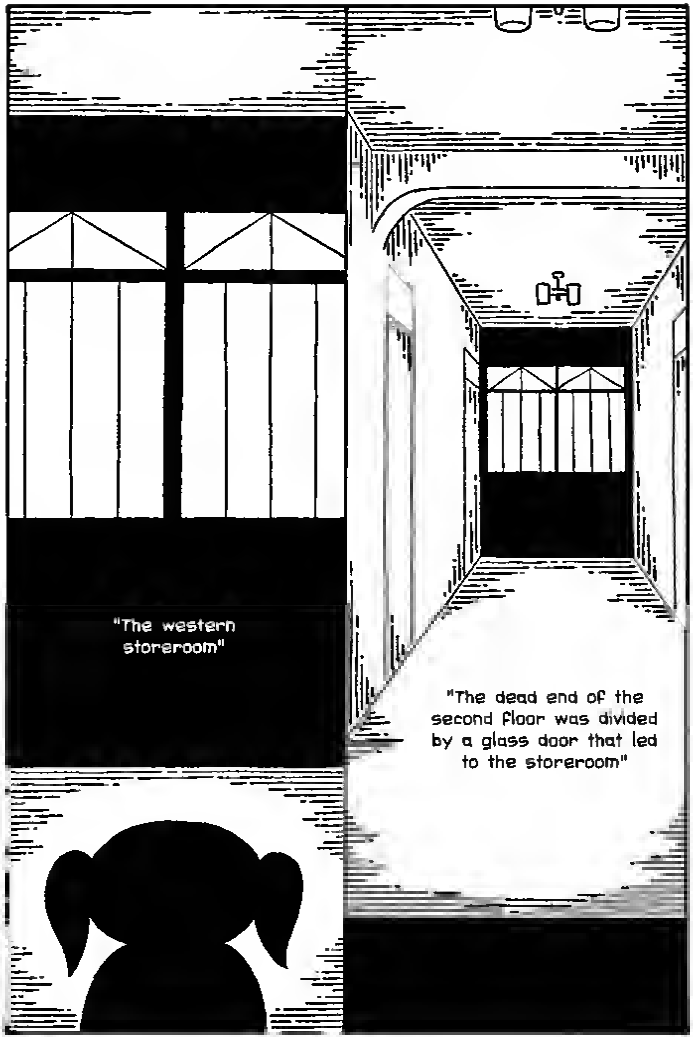
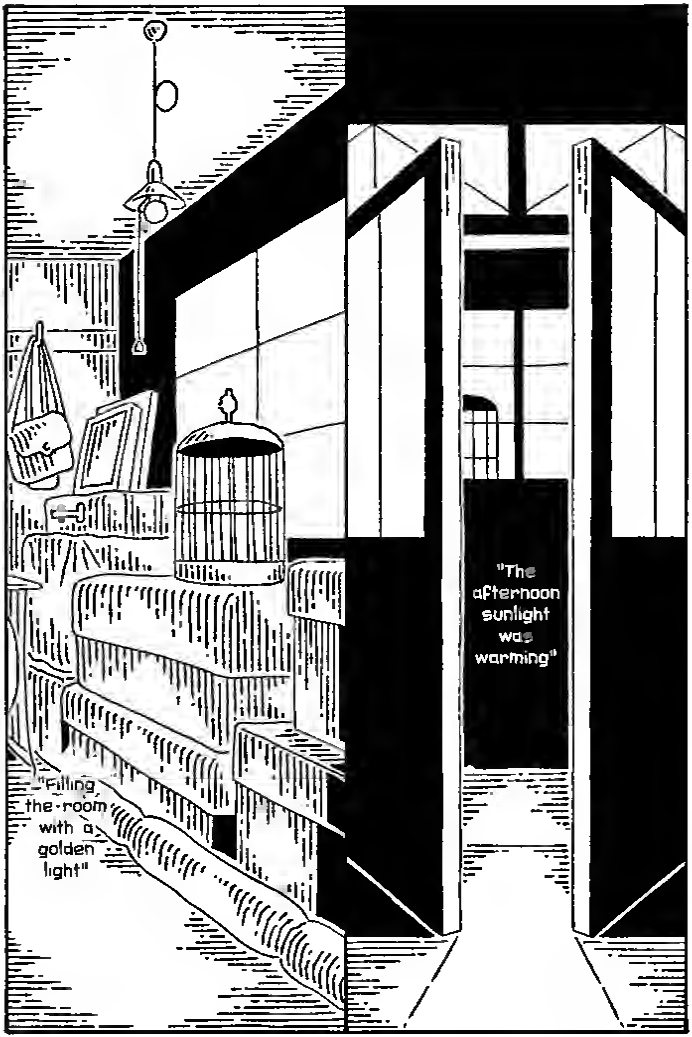
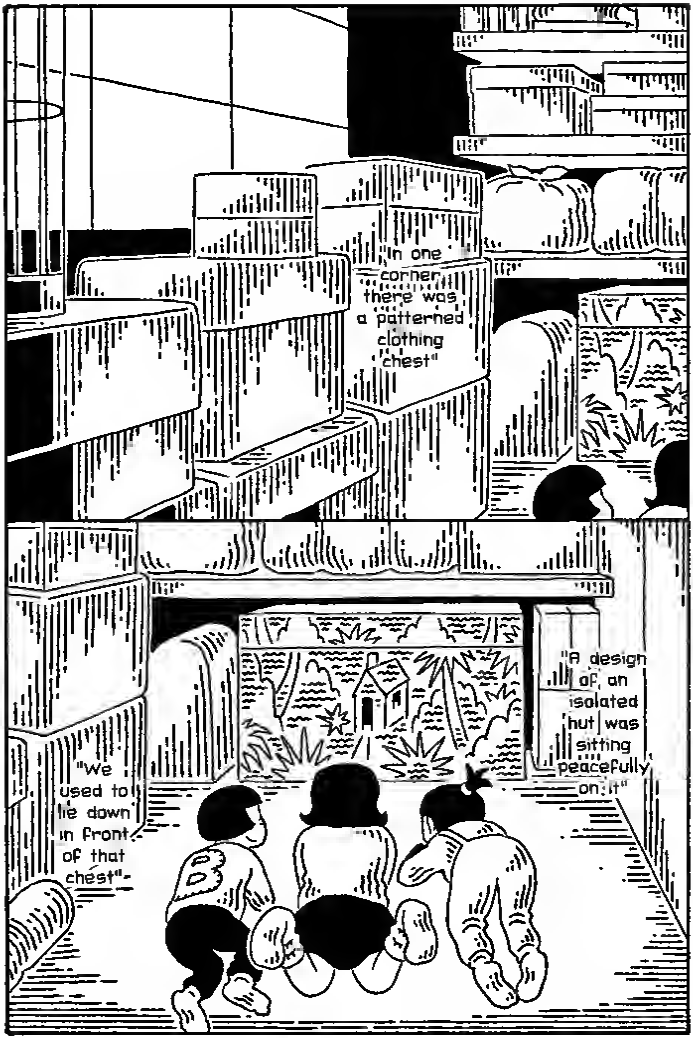
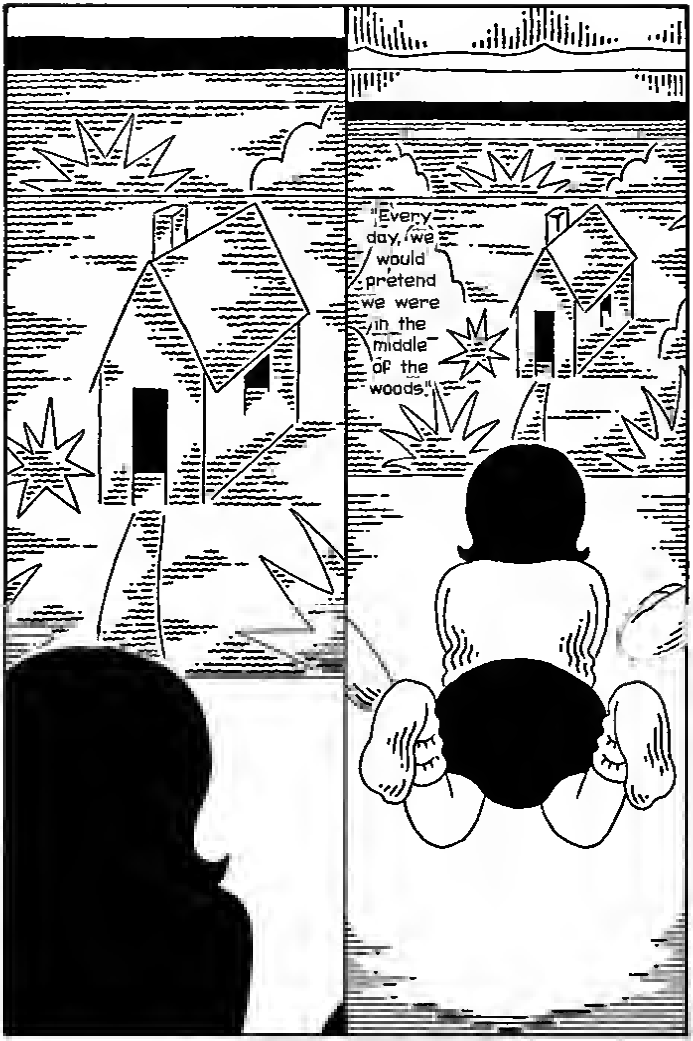

"The western storeroom"
"The dead end of the second floor was divided by a glass door that led to the storeroom"

16


"The afternoon sunlight was warming"
"Filling the room with a golden light"

17


"In one corner there was a patterned clothing chest"
"A design of an isolated hut was sitting peacefully on it"
"We used to lie down in front of that chest"-



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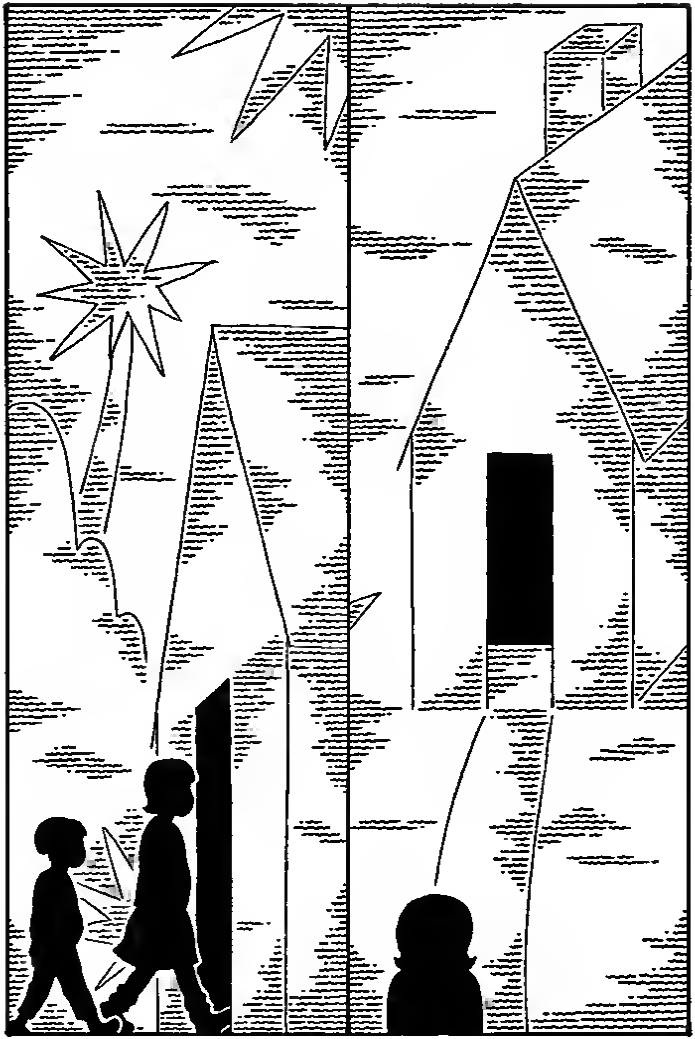

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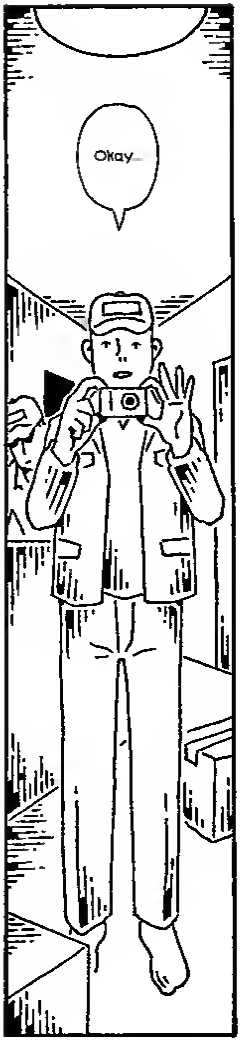
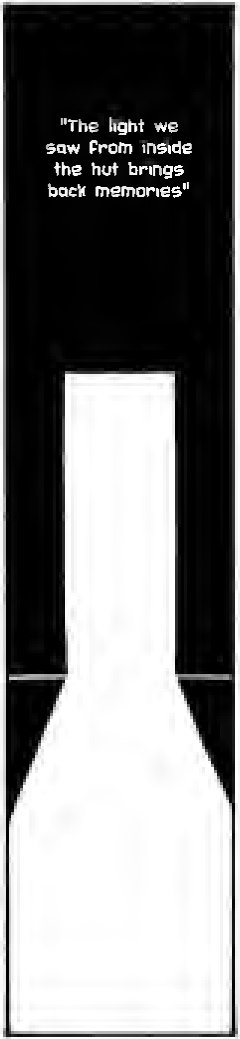
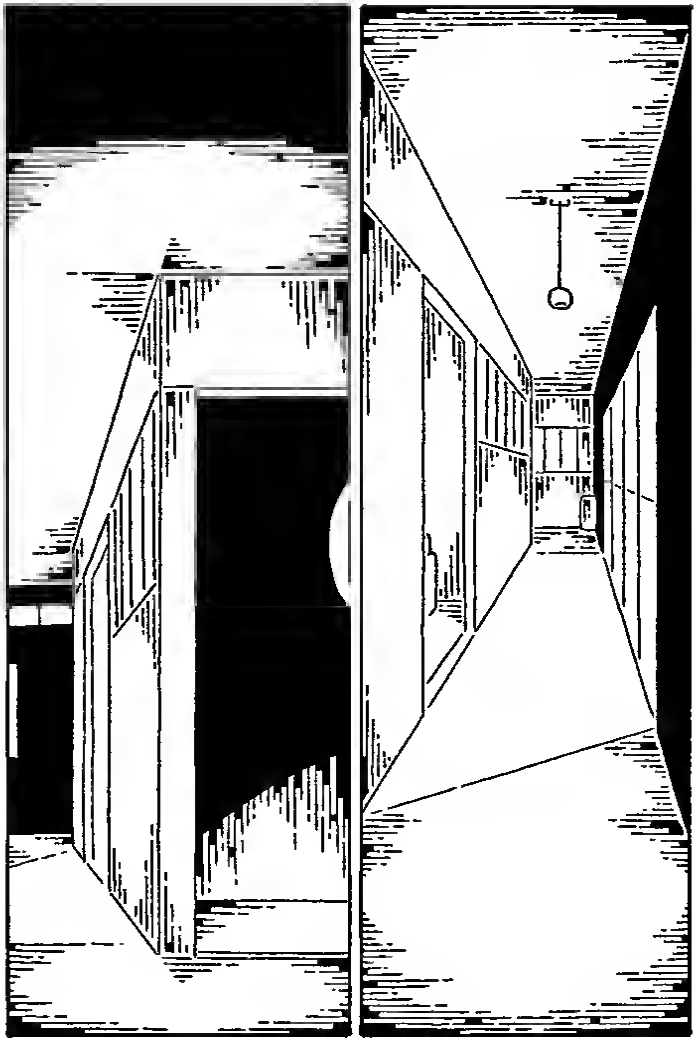
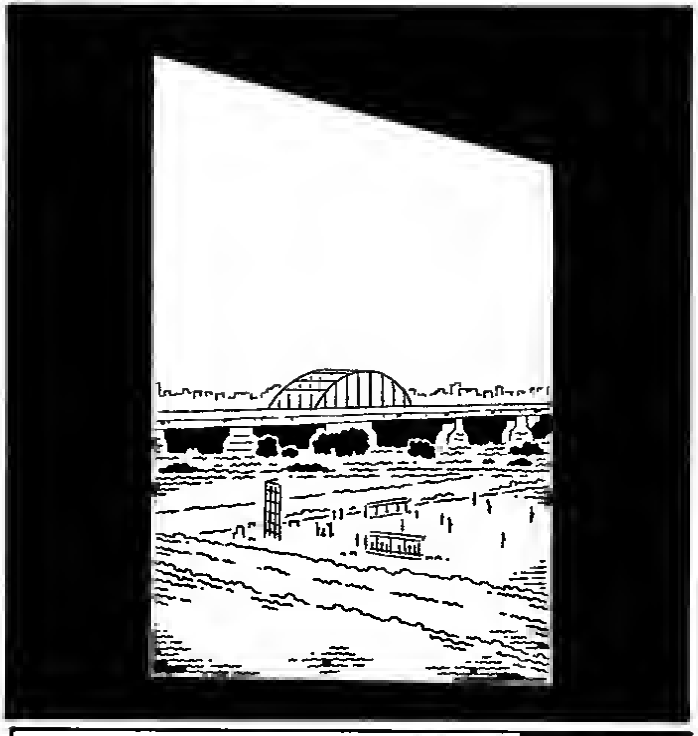

Okay...


"The light we saw from inside the hut brings back memories"
21

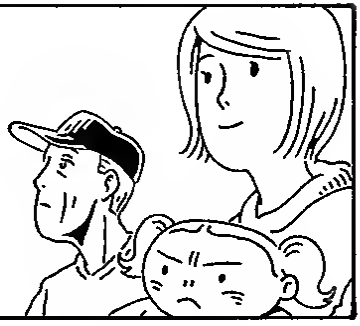
22





25

Standing idle
in the entrance
hall...



...while trying to catch the
melody the voice sings,
he looks up at his wife.
There's an elegance and
subtlety in her posture, as
though she were some
kind of symbol.

If he was a painter,
he would've drawn the
posture of that woman.

He questioned himself,
wondering about what symbolism
embodies the sound of distant music
reaching the ears of a lonely woman who
lingers in a gloomy staircase.

27

A blue felt hat would bring out her bronze hair juxtaposed to the dark scenery, as the bright ornaments embroidered on her skirt would highlight the dark ones. "The sound of distant music", that's how he would describe her if he was a painter.

September, October.

〔引音文献〕
P.2 「アエーン〔終焉〔海外篇之巻〕〕」――P.92より
W.B.イエイツ編／加島祥造訳（金時対訳）
P.116 「神秘の花園」――P.94より
バーネット著／野沢佳織訳（創元推理文庫）
P.124－P.126 「オブリナーズ〔電場之巻〕」――P.264より
イアン・マクドナルド著／嶋田洋一訳（竹書房文庫）

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September October

By

Toranosuke Shimada

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